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**LIBERTY**

**SALE**  
**STARTS**  
**THURSDAY**  
**DEC 27**

**SALE**  
**STARTS**  
**THURSDAY**  
**DEC 27**

**SALE**  
**STARTS**  
**THURSDAY**  
**DEC 27**

9am-7pm (Thurs) 9am-6pm (Fri/Sat)  
**REGENT STREET**  
**LONDON W1**

# PROBLEM OF PRIVATISATION'S POOR PERKS

By ROLAND GRIBBEN, Business Correspondent

THE Government is looking for a further stimulus in encouraging wider share ownership among the public from State assets in the privatisation pipeline.

But none is expected to have the same appeal as British Telecom, which broke all records, and at a stroke doubled the estimated two million individuals holding shares.

The offer of discounts on telephone vouchers and a share bonus played a considerable part in producing an unprecedented public interest.

Although many have been tempted by a sizeable profit, Telecom expects to retain about a million ordinary shareholders.

Other State companies in the privatisation stakes are considerably smaller and there are difficulties in matching the offer in any other way.

British Airways is the next State candidate for privatisation, but Lord King, chairman, will not be following BT in offering discounts on seats to woo the travelling public.

**Holiday discounts**

International airline regulations and Common Market rules prevent such a public offer. In any event, there is widespread discounting in the airline travel trade to ensure that the traveller, provided he is prepared to shop around, can bargain for a cut price ticket to fly.

Any B.A. incentive will come after October 1, when the airline will be most likely to offer a discount on a package holiday.

But perks or other temptations are not the prerogative of State companies in search of a new body of shareholders.

More than 100 companies, most of them quoted on the Stock Exchange, offer a variety of incentives ranging from discounts on travel to a cut-price funeral and cheaper furniture and tickets for Wimbledon.

The promoters of EuroRoute, one of the consortia with its own ideas for a cross-Channel link, are also looking to the future. They are holding out the prospect of cut-price under-water travel for shareholders on the lines of what European Ferries' present offers surface travellers.

**High-tax relief**

The creation of the consortium owes much to the ubiquitous Ian MacGregor, who appears to be determined to be remembered as the industrialist who ran the steel and coal industries and finally helped bridge the "ditch" between Britain and France.

EuroRoute wants a combined road and rail link, costing an estimated £4.5 billion—£5 billion, more than twice the price of the rail-only tunnel and has produced a range of novel financing suggestions to provide private rather than public sector finance.

They range from conventional bank loans to the creation of a tax free revenue bond market on United States lines and the introduction of the Euroshare, another tax incentive modelled on the government's Business Expansion Scheme, which allows relief for investment by high taxpayers.

The consortium is anxious to encourage the holidaymaker and business traveller to invest to help broaden the political appeal of a project which has its origins in the 19th century. But there will be no instant benefit.

A tax free £100 bond is being mooted as part of the financing package. It would be sold through banks, travel agents or even offered as a promotion or competition prize and would give reduced rates on journeys between 1985-97.

**Shareholder revolt**

The investment is more for the bottom drawer or possibly something for the grandchildren—although if Channel history is any guide, great-grandchildren are more likely to benefit.

But there is no doubting the demand for cut-price travel offers. European Ferries faced a shareholders revolt when it attempted to change the rules for cross-Channel fare concessions to reduce the huge cost of the perk and was forced to make changes.

There are discounts ranging from 25 p.c. to 50 p.c. on Townsend Thoresen ferry fares for an unlimited number of crossings. But shareholders have to hold 300 £1 preference shares and from January 1st, 1988 the qualifying limit will be 600.

The company now has over 166,000 shareholders and offers hotel discounts, a £500 refund on a holiday if a shareholder buys property at La Manga Golf and Country Club in Spain, as well as education sponsorships at University College, Buckingham.

Britain pioneered shareholder concessions, a point made by stockbrokers Seymour Pierce in a new guide to the perks on offer. The guide has an important health warning—the stock brokers point out that share price fluctuations can reduce the value of a concession.

**Wimbledon perk**

The guide also shows that the short route to a Centre Court seat at Wimbledon can prove expensive. A tennis enthusiast wanting to buy a £50 non-interest bearing debenture to qualify for one centre court seat next year with the use of private lounge and a car park space during the Wimbledon fortnight would have to fork out at least £1,800 to pay for the privilege.

The going rate for a £500 debenture for seats between 1988-90 with priority for seats between 1991-95 is £4,500 if you can get one.

At the other end of the scale, all shareholders in Areson Group qualify for a 20 p.c. discount on Roomsets fitted bedroom furniture. British Leyland is not so generous, offering only £100 discount on a new Austin Rover car bought from an authorised distributor of main dealers.

Barclays Unicorn will give all its unit trust holders a 5-5.5 discount on Concorde Q-E-2 excursions to New York. But Trafalgar, the Cunard owner, offer the better deal.

**Cleaning up**

For Trafalgar shareholders with a minimum holding of 250 there is a 15 p.c. discount on transatlantic voyages, a 10 p.c. reduction on world cruises, and the cost of staying at the Ritz and other Cunard hotels can be 15 p.c. lower.

The Savoy Group, by contrast, is positively niggardly. A recent offer only allowed shareholders a 5 discount per person each night on a two-night stay at the Savoy or Claridges.

The Securicor group provides "occasional discounts" on cordless telephones to all shareholders and Sketcheley, the cleaning business, gives a 25 p.c. discount on most of its services for a holding of 300 ordinary shares.

For the price of a 100-share holding in Lorrain there are 20 p.c. to 30 p.c. discounts on hotel services, 25 p.c. discounts on purchases from Southern Watch and Clock, and varying allowances on Volkswagen and Audi cars.

Gieves, the top people's clothiers, give a 20 p.c. discount for a minimum of 600 shares, and most drinks companies, including Bass, Whitbread and Allied Lyons, offer a mixture of discounts on purchases of reduced prices on hotel accommodation, drinks and meals.



Mr Sid Vincent, the Lancashire miners' leader, with his friend, Mrs Joan Hodgkinson, drinking at the Blarney Stone bar in Playa de las Americas on Tenerife where he is on holiday.

## FEE HITS AT ULSTER 'GRASSES'

By Our Dublin Correspondent

THE supergrass system used by the police in Northern Ireland was described yesterday as another form of internment by the leader of the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland, Cardinal Thomas Fee.

Between 400 and 500 prisoners had been arrested under the supergrass system, he said, and this was more than had been picked up when internment was introduced in 1971.

The cardinal complained that in each of the "supergrass" cases, the prisoners had been kept on remand for very long periods, some of them up to three years.

A group from his own diocese was jailed for 20 months before being released. They had been continuously pleaded innocent.

The supergrass went around the jail and looked in the cell doors, saying "That is so-and-so." Despite the inducement offered to him he was not prepared to go into open court and give evidence against the prisoners.

Cardinal Fee said that even legal representatives admitted that the supergrass system was a "dirty trick" and that it provided a chance for worthless people to make money, to make a new name for himself and to live abroad.

The cardinal said he believed it would be preferable not to have another summit meeting between Mrs Thatcher and the Irish Prime Minister, Dr Garret FitzGerald, if it turned out like the last one at Chequers.

The report of the New Ireland Forum, which suggested a number of solutions to the Ulster situation with Irishmen being encouraged to live together as Christians, was the bottom line and everything must start from there.

Referring to Mrs Thatcher's dismissal of the Forum Report as "out of the out," the cardinal said he did not think there could be any future successful summit unless "out, out, out" becomes "in, in, in."

**BOMB AT HOME OF DAIL MP'S DAUGHTER**

Dublin police were yesterday investigating the petrol bombing of the home of a daughter of a member of the Irish Republic's parliament.

Mrs Susan Bonane and her husband, Dennis, escaped unhurt from the early hours attack on their house in Glasnevin, Dublin.

Two youths on a motorcycle threw petrol bombs through the window of the couple's sitting room which was badly damaged in the fire that followed.

Mrs Bonane is the daughter of Mr Michael Barrett, a Fianna Fail opposition party representative in the Dail for the Dublin Northwest constituency.

## Ford sewing strikers may return on Jan 2

By OUR INDUSTRIAL STAFF

SHOP stewards representing the 250 striking Ford sewing machinists have given the nod to their union's return-to-work formula agreed with the company last Friday.

They are expected to recommend acceptance by the strikers, most of them women, when they meet to discover the deal on Friday.

If the strikers ratify the formula it will mean a return to work on Jan. 2 not only for the machinists but for the 8,200 other Ford employees who have been laid off as a result of the stoppage.

Because the layoff was through an internal dispute at the Halewood plant on Merseyside will meet simultaneously on Friday. Both the company and the union negotiators believe that they will agree to the proposals, not least because their shop stewards were present at the talks in London last week when they were thrashed out.

The strikers are also under immense pressure from the rest of the workforce because of the layoffs and because payment of a 7 per cent. pay settlement, due last November and already agreed in principle, has been delayed by the stoppage.

Mr Todd, who is shortly due to relinquish his direct responsibilities as the Transport Union's Ford negotiator to take over the general secretaryship of his union, has described the dispute as one of the most difficult in his experience.

It has cost the company lost production value at around £250 million at showroom prices, and has had serious knock-on effects on the components industry.

**One-off event**

The company had previously rejected independent arbitration on the grounds that the pay arrangements are too complex for outsiders to grasp quickly and that it would set a precedent which could put other agreements in jeopardy.

**BP wants pipeline through Navy base**

By ROLAND GRIBBEN, Business Correspondent

BRITISH Petroleum is seeking Ministry of Defence clearance to lay a 30-mile long pipeline to carry oil from Europe's biggest onshore oilfield in Dorset for export from the top secret naval base at Portland.

It is pressing Mr Heseltine, Defence Secretary, for an early decision to avoid any further hold-ups in the £200 million expansion programme for the Wyth Farm field, near Poole.

Two alternatives have been already rejected on environmental grounds, a pipeline through the New Forest and an extension of the existing oil train service to SS loads a week.

Another idea under consideration involves the construction of a 15,000 ton "flat bottomed" tanker in Japan to run a shuttle service through the shallow waters in Poole harbour.

Production at Wyth Farm is planned to build up from the present 4,000 barrels a day to 40,000 daily barrels or more, equivalent to two million tonnes a year by the end of the decade but the development programme has provision for handling 60,000 barrels or three million tonnes.

**Major expansion**

BP, which has a 50 per cent. stake in the field, is asking for planning permission to push ahead with the major expansion by drilling new wells in the garden like atmosphere of Furze, the second biggest field in Poole harbour.

Earlier plans to drill on the environmentally sensitive Studland Point have been temporarily abandoned in the face of fierce local opposition.

But Mr Mike O'Sullivan, BP's project manager, said: "We can't abandon the idea of drilling in the area until we have more information about the field."

The Friends of the Earth have said they will fight the Furze development but experts brought in by BP say there is nothing ecologically significant about the island, bought by BP from Mr Alvy Cluff, chairman of Cluff Oil and owner of the SPECTATOR.

**NON-STOP SUGAR**

British Sugar is to maintain continuous production over Christmas and the New Year at its 12 processing factories in the eastern counties to cope with a near-record sugar beet crop of more than one million tonnes.

**STRIKE SOUVENIR**

Commemorative porcelain candleholders depicting the Prime Minister and Mr Arthur Scargill are selling quickly at the one-man pottery business run by Mr Ned Haywood in Chepstow, Gwent.

## OIL PRICE THREAT TO TAX CUTS

By ROLAND GRIBBEN, Business Correspondent

A FURTHER drop in North Sea oil prices is raising fears among Conservative MPs that the Government's room for manoeuvre for tax cuts in the Budget in March may be reduced.

The British National Oil Corporation is to start talks shortly that are expected to lead to a reduction in the official \$28-65 a barrel base price.

But corporation negotiators are not planning to show their hand until the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries shows whether it can get its act together to stabilise the market.

Opec ministers are involved in urgent discussion with governments to try to get agreement on proposals aimed at ending cheating on output quotas and discounting to avoid a price cut.

**Changes inevitable**

The ministers have urged Britain and Norway to cut North Sea production to make some contribution to restoring market stability. They fear another North Sea cut in prices could trigger an all-out price war.

The threats are not being taken seriously in Whitehall since a free-for-all would harm members as much as Britain. But with the gap between official and spot market prices for North Sea oil again back over \$2 a barrel, it is recognised that changes will have to be made.

Mr Lawson, Chancellor, is relying heavily on rising North Sea income to help fund the budget tax cut. The Government's take is expected to be around £12 billion in the next tax year.

The increase in revenue has led to predictions that Mr Lawson may have £5 million available for tax changes—double the amount he has already indicated.

The depreciation of sterling against the dollar, the oil industry currency, has already cancelled out the effects of the October auction in North Sea prices and protecting oil Government income. Every barrel cut in prices reduces Government income by £400 million in a full year.

But there is nervousness in Whitehall about the wider implications on sterling, particularly on the level of inflation. If the £ is forced down further because of lower oil prices—hence a further exchange rate experts say the prospect of a £2 already being discounted by last week's sterling table.

**JAILED MINER TO BE FREED TODAY**

A striking miner jailed last week for a month for threats and throwing a brick at a strike-breaker's house will be released today.

James Lees, 31, of Chestnut Drive, New Olorton, Notts, had his sentence reduced on appeal to 12 days.

**CAMPAIGNER'S WILL**

Mrs Pat Seed, the cancer campaigner who raised more than £5,000,000 for cancer research and suffered from the disease for seven years, left £189,401 net (£180,650 gross) in her will. She died in August, aged 57, 10 weeks after her husband Geoffrey was killed in the Abbeystead pumping station explosion.

**2p ON CIGARETTES**

Prices of cigarettes, cigars and tobacco made by the Gallaher group, are to go up Jan. 25. Cigarettes will be increased by 2p for 20.

# Mine equipment firms expect big post-strike orders

By MAURICE WEAVER, Industrial Staff

MINING equipment companies from all over the world are hoping for big orders from the Coal Board when the miners' dispute finally ends.

They know the board will need new equipment worth millions of pounds, to get strike-bound and neglected mines back into production.

Organisers of the International Mining Exhibition, due to take place at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, in June, report they have already sold the bulk of their stand space to firms wishing to bring their latest equipment to the Coal Board's attention.

Many of the firms are British. The Coal Board traditionally buys about 80 per cent. of its capital equipment from manufacturers in this country.

But German, French, Swedish and Canadian firms are also bringing their machinery in the hope that the post-strike demand will be too much for the home industry to manage.

They suspect that, with coal stocks at pitheads, power stations and steelworks severely depleted after a strike which still shows no real signs of cracking after ten months, the board will be under immense political and economic pressure to get production back to high levels in record time.

**'Unique situation'**

Mr Keith Whitworth, editor of the COLLIERY GUARDIAN, the specialist journal read by pit managers, said: "The length of the strike has created a unique situation for the mining equipment industry."

"The foreign companies have undoubtedly identified a strong potential market over here in the next few years and have decided they want a piece of the action."

Since the strike started on March 23, coal faces have been lost through neglect, mainly as a result of flooding, the build-up of lethal gas, or what NCB officials call "strata squeeze."

The last problem, which is the most damaging, arises from the long-term effect of pressure on static coal faces and underground roadways. This causes

not only roofs to collapse, but floors to lift. Eleven "salvage" faces—ones which have been virtually worked out and were being run down—have been lost in most cases, before machinery could be withdrawn.

Nineteen more coal faces are said to be in a "serious" condition and 70 are causing concern.

**£2m coalface cost**

On average it costs £2 million to equip a modern, long-wall coalface with cutting machinery, conveyors and roof supports.

It is the replacement of this equipment—submerged, rusted, crushed or trapped for ever—that looks like giving the equipment industry its biggest lift in years.

A Coal Board spokesman said yesterday that no detailed estimate of the total damage caused by the strike has yet been prepared.

A full assessment will be carried out only when the dispute is over.

But the board emphasises that its policy will continue to be that of buying British wherever possible.

Its main items of imported equipment at present are a number of sophisticated German coal-cutting machines.

The board official added: "If the foreign companies are moving in hoping that we will be going on an overseas buying spree, they will almost certainly be disappointed."

The Coal Board has a close working relationship with major British mining equipment manufacturers like Dowty, Gullick-Dobson and the Scottish firm of Anderson Strathclyde.

Only if such home-based firms cannot meet the board's technical, price or delivery specifications do orders go overseas.

The board official said: "When that situation arises we discuss the problem with the British firms to give them an opportunity to consider their position. Only after that would we go for overseas tenders."

**Scots TUC calls for resumption of talks**

By OUR INDUSTRIAL STAFF

THE SCOTTISH TUC yesterday called for an urgent meeting with the Secretary of State for Scotland, Mr Younger, to press for the reopening of negotiations between the Coal Board and the N.U.M.

The call came against a background of a growing strike rebellion by miners in the traditionally hard-line Scottish coalfield where nearly one in five of the workforce is now back at work.

The Scottish TUC Secretary, Mr Jimmy Milne, said: "The longer this dispute continues, the more damage is done, not only to the mining industry, but to a number of other sectors of the economy and entire communities."

"We believe the Government has a responsibility to make clear to the NCB that it wishes a resumption of meaningful negotiations to settle the strike on an equitable basis."

**Fears for Ravenscraig**

Mr Milne's statement reflects the concern of the Scottish labour movement, including the miners, at the possible long-term impact on the country's industrial base if the strike goes on.

There are already fears for the future of the Ravenscraig steelworks, the closure of which would have serious spin-off effects on local manufacturing and on the future of the pits which rely on it as principal customer for their coal.

It is these fears, in a region already hit hard by unemployment problems, that have led to some 2,500 of Scotland's 12,500 miners going back, despite desperate attempts by their president, Mr Michael McGahey, to hold them in line.

One Scottish pit, Bilston Glen, is now working normally and three others are producing coal.

Of the remaining eight, only one is listed by the Coal Board as being wholly strikebound or picketed out.

"When I've finished the paper, I'll think about sending money to the NSPCC."

"I'll definitely send some money to the NSPCC this week."

"I'll really try to send money to the NSPCC this year."

# AGENCY CHIEF CUT OUT 'SNUB' TO PRINCE

By A. J. McILROY

MR David Chipp, editor in chief of the Press Association, said yesterday that no outside pressure was applied on the agency to withdraw a report that Princess Anne and her husband, Capt. Mark Phillips, had "snubbed" the Prince and Princess of Wales by not attending Friday's christening of Prince Harry.

"I and I alone was responsible for deleting certain words from the agency's original report," he said in a statement.

"No one instructed, advised or even asked me to take out such words as 'snub' or 'feud' from our original story."

"When I read our story I was uneasy that we had interpreted Princess Anne's absence in a way that people might say we could not substantiate."

Mr Chipp said that he could neither confirm nor deny reports at the weekend that he had been telephoned personally by the Prince of Wales over the original report which appeared under the name of the agency's Court correspondent, Grania Forbes.

In her first report Miss Forbes talked of a "family feud" and said that Princess Anne had snubbed the Prince and Princess of Wales. Instead of attending the christening Princess Anne and her husband left their home early on Friday dressed for shooting.

In her substitute story references to a snub and feud were omitted. It began: "The entire Royal Family with the exception of Princess Anne and Capt Mark Phillips today attended the christening of three-month-old Prince Harry."

## Categoric assurance

Mr Chipp went on: "In conversations with Buckingham Palace I was made aware that there was unhappiness over our report and received a categoric assurance that the interpretation we had put on it was just not true."

"I therefore decided to put out a substitute story simply relating the facts and leaving other people to interpret them as they wished."

Scenes from the christening, in St George's Chapel, Windsor,

will be featured in the Queen's Christmas Day broadcast.

A Buckingham Palace spokesman said that all members of the Royal Family who attended will be shown. Publicity over the non-attendance of Princess Anne and her husband would not affect the material for the broadcast.

## Wearied by calls

Clearly wearied by the number of calls from the world's media over the situation, the Press officers repeated the earlier statement that "it was a matter of regret" that Princess Anne and Captain Phillips had been unable to attend, but that it had been understood from the start they would not be present.

They declined to comment on questions asking whether Princess Anne had been upset at not being asked to be Prince Harry's godmother.

The Royal Family is at Windsor preparing for a traditional Christmas "at home." Princess Anne and her husband joined the party on Friday evening.

Blazing log fires at Windsor Castle, and the setting of Home Park and Great Park for the taste of outdoor life so loved by the Royal Family, is the background for several days of relaxation.

A high point is the Christmas Eve dinner for the whole family, followed by another free day since the Queen now pre-records her Christmas Day broadcast.

The Queen and her family travel to Sandringham after Christmas for the equally traditional New Year stay on her estate.

The Queen's broadcast is televised at 5 p.m. on Christmas Day and is on Radio 4 at 9.30 a.m.



A change of clothing for one guest and a bowl of soup for another at the disused Bloomsbury bus garage which will be home for the homeless over Christmas.



## 1,600 Army lunches for homeless

By CON COUGHLIN

HUNDREDS of down-and-out yesterday checked into a disused London bus garage where they will be given food and shelter for the next six days.

More than 3,000 are expected to pass through the temporary shelter which has been set up by the charity "Crisis at Christmas."

They will get free meals, with a Christmas dinner being provided by the Army Catering Corps recently commended by Egon Ronay for its excellence.

The Army offered to help after Westminster Technical College, which normally prepares a Christmas dinner for the centre, suddenly found itself unable to do so.

Trainees on the Army's School of Catering Basic Course at St Omir Barracks, Aldershot, stepped in and offered to prepare the Christmas feast.

They prepared 1,600 portions of turkey and trimmings which have been deep frozen and will be brought out to serve to the homeless tomorrow.

## 400 volunteers

At least 400 volunteers will be working round the clock at the centre for the six day period during which time more than 1,500 meals will be served. Thousands of cups of tea and soup will also be available on demand as new people arrive.

The customers, all of whom are homeless and alone in London, will sleep on mattresses on the floor.

Medical attention will be on hand throughout the day and there will be a clothing section where those needing new, warm clothes, can be fitted out.

"Crisis at Christmas" was started 18 years ago by the late Iain Macleod who called upon people from all political parties and religious denominations to come together at this time of year to help the single homeless.

## TURKEY ON 81 pc OF TABLES

Three out of four people think Christmas is becoming less religious than it was during their childhood, and is mainly a chance to meet family and friends, according to the latest Gallup Poll published in THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH.

Only 5 per cent think it is becoming more religious.

Of those asked which of a number of activities they will be doing this Christmas as compared with 1981, 81 per cent said they would eat turkey (82 per cent in 1981); 78 per cent would have a Christmas tree (40); 74 per cent were staying at home (1981 figures not available); 57 per cent were having a family party (54).

## 54th CAKE

A Brussels baker yesterday claimed the record for the world's longest Christmas cake, a traditional "Yule-log" 54ft 4in long, sold for a children's charity. — A.P.

## Growers pine over tree glut

By IAN BALL in New York

AN estimated 32 million American families have bought a real Christmas tree this season, paying on average \$50 (£25).

It has been another bumper year for an industry which has its own trade association and an elaborate network of wholesalers, distributors and dealers. It may, however, be the last merry year for some time so far as the growers are concerned.

A major glut of Christmas trees is in the making.

"Right now there are more than 300 million trees in the ground," said Mr Donald McNeil, executive director of the National Christmas Tree Association. "By 1987 we could have 50 million or 60 million trees a year on the market."

This year alone, growers planted more than 80 million trees.

## 'Two-tree family'

And to make matters worse for traditional growers in such northern states as Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Vermont, farmers in Georgia and other southern states have found they can grow handsome Virginia pine trees in three to five years — half the time it takes for the firs and spruces to reach Christmas-tree height.

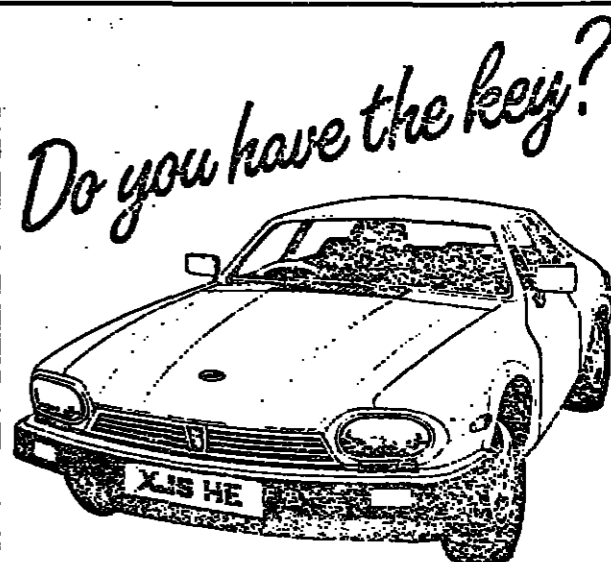
The growers' Association is considering an advertising campaign for next year and special promotional efforts. One possibility being explored is the "two-tree family."

## HEATH'S CAROLS RAISE £1,000

Mr Heath, the former Prime Minister, conducted his 40th Christmas carol concert in his former home town of Broadstairs yesterday.

Mr Heath's guests included the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, and Andrew Lloyd Webber, the composer, whose Requiem Mass Pie Jesu was sung in its first public performance and whose wife, Sarah Brightman, was the soloist. A collection raised a total of £1,075 for local charities.

The Daily Telegraph, Monday, December 21, 1984



Have you received your Thistle Key yet?

It could open the door to a Jaguar XJS HE Coupé. Or one of three Austin Mini Mayfairs. Or one of six trips to the USA on Concorde. Or even one of hundreds of Thistle Highlife Breaks.

All these prizes can be won when you visit any Thistle Hotel during January and February 1985 and present your Key to open our 'World of Thistle' safe.

Your Key also guarantees a gift of two bottles of Appellation Contrôlée wine when you stay at full or corporate rates for a minimum of two nights.

For every guest, there is a special welcome and the chance to enjoy the benefits of our current £30 million investment programme in new facilities.

You'll also find that the American Express Card is warmly welcomed at each of the 35 Thistle hotels.

Phone 01-937 8033 to make your reservation. Full details of the Thistle Key promotion will be sent on request, with your booking confirmation.

## THISTLE HOTELS

London, Birmingham, Carlisle, Cheltenham, Glastonbury, Kendal, Liverpool, Luton, Manchester, Newcastle upon Tyne, Nottingham, St. Albans, Teesside, Weybridge, Aberdeen, Aviemore, Dundee, Dunfermline, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Shetland.

## Frustrations of £50 cheque card limit

By BRENDA PARRY

AS Christmas shopping takings reached record levels at the weekend, traders and shoppers were becoming increasingly frustrated by the £50 limit on bank guarantee cards.

## FIVE KILLED IN M-WAY CRASH

Daily Telegraph Reporter FIVE people, including two children, were killed in a crash on the M27 near Southampton at the weekend when an articulated lorry, jackknifed into the path of two on-coming cars in steady rain.

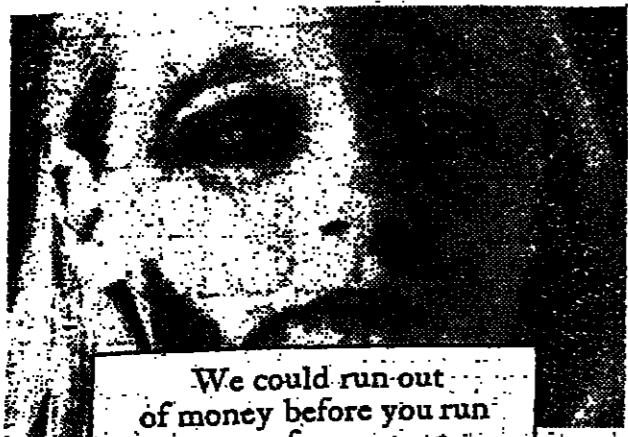
Police said the dead included a French family of four, who were identified from their passports. Next of kin have still to be informed.

A Southampton man also died and his eight-year-old son was seriously injured in the accident. He is not being named until his daughter, believed to be abroad on a trip, has been informed.

## Guardian died

In other accidents in Hampshire, two drivers died in a three-car pile-up on the A3 near Petersfield, and a young guard died after a hit-and-run accident at Aldershot.

The drivers were named as Mr William Haggarty, 39, of Bordon, and Mrs Jeanie Horne, 56, of Havant, both Hampshire. The soldier who died was Guardsman Robert Fleming, 22, of the Royal Army Dental Corps, based at Aldershot.



We could run out of money before you run out of excuses.

Before you put this newspaper down, get a pen, your cheque book (or a postal order) and send a donation to the NSPCC. It doesn't matter how much you send; the money will be used to give the chance of a normal childhood to children who've never had one. Dr A. Goldman, NSPCC, appeals, c/o Sutton Hall, London EC2N 1RR.

NSPCC. We've helped 9 million children in the last 100 years.

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During 1985 the National Savings Ordinary Account is offering a guaranteed interest rate of 6% p.a. on balances maintained at £500 or more. Whatever happens to other interest rates, this one will not change in the coming year.

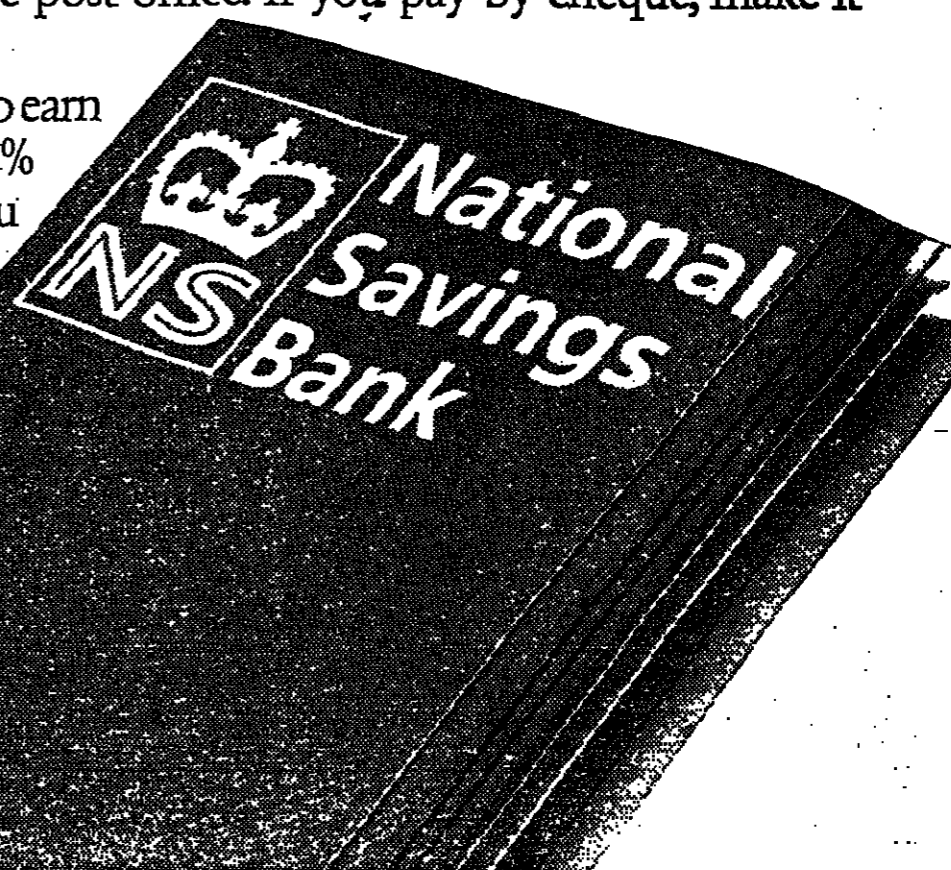
The first £70 a year of interest is free of all UK Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax.

For example, if you deposit £1,167 before the end of December 1984 and keep it in for the whole of 1985, you will earn the full tax-free benefit of £70. Husbands and wives are each entitled to this amount of tax exemption.

You get a guaranteed rate of interest and ready access to your money. To earn the guaranteed rate of 6% keep at least £500 invested from 31 December 1984 to 1 January 1986. Additional deposits will also earn the 6% rate for each whole month of 1985 that the money is earning interest. (Balances of less than £500 will earn 3%.)

Act by 31 December. You can open a National Savings Ordinary Account at the post office. If you pay by cheque, make it out to "The Post Office."

And don't forget to earn the guaranteed rate of 6% for the whole of 1985, you must act before the end of December 1984.



# 25 YEARS BEFORE 'STAR WARS' IS MILITARY REALITY

By Maj.-Gen. EDWARD FURSDON  
Defence Correspondent

THE American Strategic Defence Initiative—called "Star Wars" by Reagan's critics—does not even exist in hardware terms, and could not effectively do so for another 25 to 30 years.

It is currently a live political issue of the highest profile and of huge potential advantage for the West—even though it is not a military reality.

Implementation of SDI would be so disadvantageous for the Soviet Union, an important Western arms control source said yesterday, that it is already trying its hardest to manipulate this non-existent strategic concept politically.

It is seeking to prise the European nations from the Nato alliance and is also fighting to secure its own future relative position in the space arms race.

"SDI is only a notion, an aim, an artist's impression of something which simply is not yet in being," he said.

"Currently political at this moment—it is really only a bunch of different proposals about which there is certainly no strategic concept of what it might one day contain, or how it would work."

"No one knows now whether it would eventually be based on pulse-lasers, particle beams, or some other high-energy system either alone or in combination."

10 research contracts

"All that really exists today," he said, "is 10 feasibility research contracts, let to 10 American companies, all charged with looking into what the Strategic Defence Initiative really ought to be, and about £1.2 million in next year's American defence budget."

"This competitive research will probably take up to ten years—followed by possible agreements on the guidelines for a strategic concept and then at least another ten years of development."

"Finally, it could be a further five to ten years before any deployed hardware weaponry became fully operationally effective."

"SDI is thus not a near-term business at all, but something some 25 to 30 years ahead, which is in practice, another strategic nuclear missile generation away."

Even then, no one could ever give a 100 per cent. guarantee that SDI would provide a completely impenetrable shield against an enemy nuclear attack. But if an effective SDI were ever deployed in position, its role would be that of a deterrent, making any enemy first strike attack a very expensive option indeed.

It could thus buy crisis stability but, given the unchanged current imperatives of the

super-powers, not necessarily slow down, still less eliminate, maybe even enhance, the arms race.

A major Soviet objective in publicising the SDI issue now is to try to use it, if possible, to obtain a total ban on all weapons in space, or at least a moratorium on them.

One important reason for this is that currently satellites and missiles in space are categorised differently.

Whereas the Soviet Union is comparatively advanced in anti-ballistic missile work, for which there is a related treaty, it is well behind America on anti-satellite satellites (ASATs), which are a reality now and currently not subject to any treaty restriction.

Furthermore, only the testing of anti-satellite satellites can be currently monitored. There is no practical way of effectively monitoring or verifying what any orbiting satellite (which could be actually carrying, so long as it stays quiet, and does not care to reveal its payload.

Hence only the Russian proposed total ban on all space weapons—which would automatically include ASATs—would negate the current American lead, and thus reduce current Soviet concerns.

Reasons for support

"It is this type of practical issue that obviously lies behind Mrs Thatcher's support of continued space research and testing by keeping the West's future strategic space options open."

By continuing the West's work in fields in which the Soviet Union is known also to be investing large resources—and in which they are known to be behind—the argument is that the West will be doing two vital things.

First, ensuring that it will not be fatally disadvantaged by some sudden new Soviet scientific breakthrough. Second, keeping up its leading edge in space is the strongest negotiating stance from which to follow its declared prime policy of negotiating arms control with the East.

AIRBORNE AGAIN

Air New Zealand resumed domestic flights yesterday after making a "major concession" to cabin staff on strike over new rostering. Talks on resuming international flights were continuing—Reuters.



## 'Old soldier' Sokolov takes over defence

By NIGEL WADE  
In Moscow

MARSHAL SERGEI SOKOLOV, 73, a soldier for more than 50 years, was named as Soviet Defence Minister at the weekend to succeed Marshal Dmitri Ustinov, who will be buried on Red Square today.

He has been a First-Deputy Defence Minister since 1967 and recently deputised for Marshal Ustinov while he was ill.

Earlier speculation had focused on Mr Grigori Romanov, 61, a Politburo member with responsibility for the defence industry, who was named to head Marshal Ustinov's funeral committee.

Marshal Ustinov himself headed the funeral committee for his predecessor, Marshal Grechko, in 1976.

Lying in State

It is not known whether Mr Romanov was actually offered the defence post. Some Western analysts think he may have declined, to continue working in the Communist party Secretariat, where he is the leading rival to Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, 53, the Kremlin Number Two.

Both attended Marshal Ustinov's lying in state with President Chernenko and other Politburo members on Saturday.

Marshal Sokolov, who joined the Red Army in 1932, has travelled widely in Africa, the Middle East and Eastern Europe but never in the West. He has had an important role in negotiating Soviet arms deals in the Third World.

Marshal Sergei Sokolov (left), 73, the new Soviet Defence Minister, standing near the body of his predecessor, Marshal Ustinov, during the lying-in-State in Moscow's Hall of Columns. With Marshal Sokolov are Marshal Sergei Akhromev (centre) and Marshal Viktor Kulikov, former first deputies to Marshal Ustinov.

## Tradition takes over trouble-torn Poland

By ROBIN GEDYE in Warsaw

FATHER CHRISTMAS, brown lace-ups and corduroy turn-ups protruding from his red cape, has been patrolling Marszałkowska Street, Warsaw, with his photographer assistant in the best capitalist tradition.

The passing child is befriended and placed on Father Christmas's knee.

As admiring parents stand back, the photographer leaps forward with his Russian camera to take flash photographs.

He scribbles his address on a notepad, hands it to parents and the unlikely couple disappear into the icy drizzle, the tiny bell on Father Christmas's shepherd's crook tinkling off to the middle distance.

Christmas is a time when this staunchly Roman Catholic nation can effect to forget the problems of the daily grind and take solace from one of the few consistent symbols of normality in this tortured land.

Goods are more plentiful this year than at any time since martial law. They are of inferior quality by Western standards and often shoddily made, but most essential clothing items are available.

Warsaw is currently drowning

Traditionally the meal should have 13 courses and is eaten on tablecloths spread over straw. But as in all things, Polish expediency becomes the mother of shortcomings. In towns the straw is usually unavailable and who can say what constitutes a course.

Remain sober

The meal is meagre and at least one dish will be mushroom based, a favourite food in Poland. Carp forms the centrepiece if tracked down by the family during the previous week.

Many people no longer bother to try to make up the 13 courses, but those that do are quite capable of including the salt and pepper as separate courses.

The drink may be anything from vodka to champagne, but Christmas Eve may be the only night of the year when the enterprising and entertained attempt to remain sober.

As the dinner ends, the family gathers round the Christmas tree, only decorated earlier that day, to hand out presents addressed but unsigned, since they are all supposed to come from the same mythical source.

And as midnight approaches, Poland's homes grow deserted as millions stream to the churches which have so often given them spiritual and secular guidance and come through the worst of times strengthened, if anything.

CASH FOR GAS  
BLAST FAMILIES

By Our Correspondent  
in Guatemala City

Mexico's Attorney-General has ordered the State-owned petroleum monopoly to indemnify the families of about 500 people killed when its gas plant in Mexico City exploded last month.

The Attorney-General's Office, which conducted an investigation of the explosion and ensuing fire, said the disaster was caused by a gas leak at the complex of Petroleos Mexicanos.

GUNMEN GRAB  
£50m SECURITIES

By Our Toronto Correspondent

Three gunmen have stolen £50 million in securities in the biggest armed robbery in Canadian history, at the brokerage firm of Merrill Lynch, Montreal.

Some of the securities are negotiable. Police say the robbers may have come from abroad, descriptions have been issued to police in America and Europe.

## PRETORIA SOFTENS ITS LINE

By Our Johannesburg Correspondent

SPECULATION is mounting that the South African Government is preparing to hold direct talks with the outlawed African National Congress in a major initiative to curb growing political restlessness among the country's huge black majority.

President Botha firmly refuted the claims this weekend and stated it was not his Government's policy to negotiate with organisations promoting violence and that "no parliamentarians of the nationalist Government will be allowed to do so."

But he added: "We are always willing to talk to groups who follow the road of constitutional development but not to those fostering violence."

The statement fuels a growing belief that the Government may be considering freeing jailed Congress leaders aimed at lowering the temperature of turbulence that has raged through black townships this year.

'Hard-line' Mandela

Blacks have no share in the new constitution, with its separate parliaments for whites, mixed-race, coloureds and Indians, which starts work in January. But a select parliamentary committee is investigating some way of bringing urban blacks into the political process.

President Botha held talks earlier this month with Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, the powerful Zulu leader, after a lengthy period of estrangement between the two.

It is believed the Chief impressed on the President the need for bold, positive steps to solve South Africa's political dilemmas.

Mr Louis Le Grange, Minister of Law and Order, has also hinted that some Congress leaders such as Walter Sisulu might be freed although the official line is that Nelson Mandela, the man regarded by many blacks as the embodiment of their ideals, remains as hard-line as ever in his resistance to peaceful change.

Mr Botha's statement that no national party MPs will be allowed to take part in direct contact with the African National Congress is seen as a warning to a group of backbenchers not to try to force the pace.

Rebel aid

It had been reported that a group of MPs would travel to Lusaka, the Zambian capital, early next month to meet Congress representatives.

National party youth leaders who meet in Pretoria have also urged direct contact.

Meanwhile Mr Pik Botha, Foreign Minister, disclosed this weekend he had visited several East African countries in an effort to cut off aid to the Renamo resistance movement in Mozambique which is fighting the Marxist Government of President Machel.

The countries are believed to include Malawi, the Comoros Islands off Mozambique in the Indian Ocean, and Saudi Arabia.

Mr Botha said "specific allegations regarding assistance to elements opposed to the Mozambique Government were categorically denied" by the Governments of the countries he visited.

TRUCE STARTS  
IN GUATEMALA

By Our Correspondent in Guatemala City

Guerrillas in El Salvador yesterday complied with the first phase of their Christmas truce with the Government, allowing civilian vehicles to circulate across the war-torn nation. The rebels today were also to begin a unilateral three-day cease-fire, which the army has not formally accepted.

The army's refusal to accept the cease-fire has demonstrated the split between the Rightist military and the moderate civilian Government of President Jose Napoleon Duarte.

## Exit Mintoff, social reformer and 'pocket Napoleon'

By CHARLES LAURENCE

THE name of Mr Dom Mintoff has become inextricably linked with the quirky and sometimes violent mould of Maltese politics since independence 20 years ago.

He ruled the tiny George Cross Island, population 520,000 for 13 consecutive years before stepping down as Prime Minister at the age of 68, on Saturday.

But he had been a leading and controversial force in Maltese affairs for more than two decades before he won the 1971 elections.

A small man in charge of a small country, his enemies dubbed him the 'pocket Napoleon' of the Mediterranean.



Mr Dom Mintoff: making way for a younger man.

They accused him of attempting to set up a Socialist dictatorship in Malta while playing the international stage with an aggression out of all proportion to the importance of the island.

His supporters, on the other hand, revered him for leveling some, if not all, of the inequalities of Maltese society while steering a skilful course between the super-powers under the flag of 'neutrality' and tackling what they see as the endemic problem of an over-population and reactionary Roman Catholic Church.

Social reforms

In truth, his 13 years as Prime Minister achieved much in terms of social reforms that was to the advantage of the majority of his people.

He raised the standards of living for the poor with a minimum wage, instituted health care for all—there was no maternity services beyond Church charity before Mintoff—and set up a state pensions scheme. Real benefits expanded his power base in the 1970s.

His style of government, however, has always attracted criticism and fears for the future of democracy in the island.

His Labour party has admitted the use of "thugs," a word that is part of the political language. Malta, with organised groups of workers, mostly from the state-owned shipyards, used to intimidate his opponents with beatings, bombings and the destruction of homes and offices.

His supporters have turned down the offices of the Times or Malta because he did not like their editorial, while Opposition MPs have been attacked inside the Parliament building.

Deepening divide

Mr Mintoff's intolerance of opposition came to a head at the last general election when boundary changes, denounced by the rival Nationalist party as "gerrymandering," gave him a majority of Parliament seats on 49 per cent of the vote compared to the Nationalists' 51.

The result triggered a constitutional crisis and a deepening divide among the people that he has conspicuously failed to solve before quitting office.

Confrontation has been the hallmark of the Mintoff era. His instinctive reaction to critics is to sack them—as he did the entire medical staff of the island's hospitals when they went on strike several years ago.

The doctors remain suspended while the hospitals are run with foreigners from Czechoslovakia, Poland and Yugoslavia. He has also threatened to close down independent trade unions after strikes against his policies.

His most recent battle has been with the Church, in many ways his most powerful opponent in a country where 98 per cent are practising Catholics.

First he passed a law giving the state the right to seize more than half the Church's property but this move is currently suspended by the Constitutional Court. Then he tackled the Church's network of private schools, forbidding them to charge fees.

He postponed his retirement in the face of the crisis that policy triggered while many observers believe that with the Church he has picked a fight neither he, nor his successors, can win.

There is irony in this, for as he enacted his law was destined for the Church was the Conspicua, a dockland suburb of Valletta, the eldest son of

a family of 11, and was pushed towards the Church by his mother.

Legend has it that in his early teens he suffered humiliation in the eyes of his peers as every Tuesday he was forced by his mother to wear a cut-down habit of a Dominican monk to his Catechism class, in honour of St Dominic after whom he was named.

A bright child, he won a scholarship to the seminary but there was further conflict there as his scholarship was withdrawn when a priest, noticing an extravagant wedding laid on for a sister, concluded that the family could pay fees.

The young Mintoff abandoned the path to the priesthood and instead came to Britain, as a Rhodes scholar, and spent the war years in London.

Anti-Britain campaign

He is best known in Britain for his campaign against the British in general and the Royal Navy in particular.

Britain ruled Malta as a colony for more than 150 years and the Grand Harbour at Valletta was the home of the Mediterranean fleet.

Mr Mintoff was determined to expunge the vestiges of the colonial power and even now prefers to date Malta's independence from the day the last Royal Navy ship sailed from the harbour, rather than the official day of independence more than a decade earlier.

There is irony in this too, for in the 50's Mr Mintoff inspired his Labour party to call for full integration with Britain and it was the Nationalists who sought independence. He has never forgiven Britain for the rejection.

It was at the end of his first term as Prime Minister, in 1958, under colonial rule, that the Governor, Sir Robert Laycock, said: "The trouble with Mr Mintoff is that he can never forget that he is the son of a Royal Navy cook."

Since turning his back on Britain, Mr Mintoff has gathered controversial friends including Col Gaddafi of Libya, the North Koreans, who have helped train his tiny army, and the Soviet Union.

In his last weeks as Prime Minister, Mr Mintoff signed a new treaty with Libya and visited Russia, returning with trade agreements while curbing trade with Italy, a natural trading partner to the north of the island.

## 1990 DATE FOR CHINA'S LAW ON HONGKONG

By HUGH DAVIES  
in Hongkong

The law by which China is to govern Hongkong will be finalised by 1990, seven years before Britain relinquishes sovereignty, according to Peking officials.

Just how much of the voice of Hongkong will be heard is debatable as all the Chinese say is that they will "solicit" the colony's views. But Peking has pledged to use last week's pact as a basis for the law which at present is similar to Britain's.

However, it says the law will be enacted by the National People's Congress in Peking which acts as a rubber stamp for the Communist regime. In addition, the law must follow the Chinese constitution, which ostensibly allows mainland people many freedoms that in practice are denied.

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## It's the same old story this Christmas.

A child is born. A mother and child search for shelter. They may by now be dead, or more dead than alive, among the hungry on the move in Africa.

Christian Aid has been getting through to the disaster areas in Ethiopia with over £1 million worth of food, medicines and trucks in the last few weeks (over £3½ million since January), distributed through local churches and relief agencies.

But relief is not enough. That is why we are also giving seed, tools and oxen to the poor. Unless the land is developed, another disaster will follow this one. And more countries in Africa will follow Ethiopia.

To bring good news to the poor is what the Christmas story is really about.

Can you think of anything better to do this Christmas Eve?

To: Christian Aid, P.O. Box 1, London SW9 9BH.

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Account No.....for £.....

We can reclaim tax on convenient gifts from U.K. taxpayers

Tick box for details. ☐

Signature.....

Name.....

Address.....

If receipt needed tick here. ☐

**Christian Aid  
Christmas Appeal**



John & Lisa

# GANDHI POISED FOR BIG WIN IN ELECTIONS

By DAVID GRAVES in New Delhi  
MR Rajiv Gandhi is expected to lead his Congress (I) party to a landslide victory in India's elections which start today and in which 379 million people can vote for 5,301 candidates.

Opinion polls and commentators have been unanimous in predicting success for the ruling party in the wake of Mrs Gandhi's assassination combined with the lack of serious electoral alternative posed by a divided opposition.

A poll in the magazine INDIA TODAY, which in 1980 correctly forecast the result when Congress won 352 seats, said the 40-year-old Prime Minister would win 566 constituencies.

That would give him a commanding majority in the 542-seat Lok Sabha, the lower House of Parliament.

Mr Gandhi himself said in Bangalore at the weekend: "We will win more than enough seats."

**£450m exercise**

Voting will begin at 8 a.m. today in 379 constituencies in which a 279 million electorate will vote for 4,073 candidates in 22 state and union territories. On Thursday another 117 constituencies will go to the polls along with 20 seats in Uttar Pradesh in which voting has been spread over two days. Voting on Friday in three constituencies in Madhya Pradesh and Nagaland will end the mammoth exercise likely to cost more than £450 million.

Counting will begin at 4 p.m. on Friday and the results of most constituencies plus the subsequent political composition of the next Parliament, should be known by Saturday.

Elections are not being held in the troubled states of Punjab and Assam, which together account for 27 seats while polling in three constituencies has been postponed because of the deaths of candidates in two seats and the murder of another in the third.

Polling has also been postponed until Jan. 8 in Bihar because of the poison gas disaster and until June in snow-bound Ladakh in Jammu and Kashmir.

Mr Gandhi's party has already claimed the lone seat in the union territory of Mizoram after fielding the only candidate.

## 'Angry' India puts off Heseltine sales trip

By DAVID GRAVES in New Delhi  
A PROPOSED visit to India by Mr Heseltine, Defence Secretary, to discuss multi-million pounds arms sales has been postponed at New Delhi's request.

## ANTI-CIA CAMPAIGN ON BHOPAL

By BALRAM TANDON in New Delhi

INDIA'S Communists are using the gas disaster at Bhopal to unleash a major anti-CIA campaign against the United States and the Central Intelligence Agency, and are warning Indians to be wary of offers of aid for the victims.

The Communists are saying the Bhopal plant was a CIA plot to manufacture lethal gases for its stockpile of chemical warfare weapons.

I was repeatedly asked in Bhopal by professional people whether I did not suspect sabotage.

They suspected the CIA could have masterminded the accident to test the impact of a small quantity of gas on a major habitation centre and its long-term effect on people and the environment.

The Indian Government has so far turned down offers of aid, including teams of doctors, from Union Carbide, of which the Bhopal plant was a subsidiary, partly because India has an impressive pool of doctors in research institutes.

The Congress party during Mrs Gandhi's heyday made the CIA a convenient whipping boy in election campaigns.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, her son and successor as Prime Minister, has not once in the hundreds of speeches made on his election tour this month mentioned the American base at Bhopal.

But the Congress party is sensitive to Communist propaganda, particularly after the Bhopal disaster, because the CIA has mostly been a strong hold of the Right-wing Bharatiya Janata party.

## BHOPAL PLANT LOSES LICENCE

The Madhya Pradesh state government had refused to renew the licence of the Union Carbide factory which has 3,500 jobs, it was reported in Bhopal yesterday.

The licence was not renewed by the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh because of a "breach of provisions" concerning safety.

The Union Carbide applied for renewal in October and the application was rejected on Dec. 14.—Reuters.



Congratulations all round for Mr Ben Jeyaretnam, one of the two victorious opposition leaders, after the Singapore general election.

## Ruffled Lee may change poll system

By IAN WARD in Singapore

REVIEWING his Government's loss of two of the 79 Parliamentary seats in Saturday's Singapore general elections, Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew yesterday hinted that the island's one-man-one vote electoral system would have to be carefully reviewed.

The ruling People's Action Party (PAP) hierarchy, who had confidently predicted a "clean-sweep" victory, were obviously dismayed by the two constituency seats that went to the Opposition — one to Mr Ben Jeyaretnam, the Workers' Party leader, the other to Mr Chiam See Tong, the Singapore Democratic Front runner.

Worse still, as far as the ruling party's leaders were concerned, was the 12 per cent slide of popular support away from the Government that has been in uninterrupted control of the island's destiny for 23 years.

The Government had 75.2 per cent of the vote in 1980. On Saturday this had fallen to 62.9 per cent.

Mr Jeyaretnam's constituency of Anson and Mr Chiam's seat of Potong Pasir were considered critical and the PAP made all out efforts to secure them.

Still defiant

Many diplomatic observers were last night interpreting the sizeable swing as a direct warning from the electorate on the extraordinary arrogance that has become an identifying feature of the Government in recent years.

But it was a defiant-as-ever Prime Minister who held an early-morning Press conference yesterday to discuss the outcome.

He characterised the swing to the Opposition as a "skillful play" manipulated by a "highly sophisticated electorate" which wanted the PAP Government to remain but at the same time wanted to apply pressure to it.

Mr Lee went on to reiterate his basic argument that Singapore's position in terms of geography, multi-racial population, and lack of resources, made it unable to "play the game of bargains" with internal politics.

If Saturday's voting trends continued, said the Prime Minister, "then the one-man-one vote system must lead to our decline — if not our disintegration."

**'Prosecute' call**

The activities of Dr Chauhan, who predicted the assassination of Mrs Gandhi by two Sikh bodyguards, has infuriated the Indian government which has repeatedly lodged protests with London and called for his prosecution for incitement to violence.

Although Mr Heseltine's visit had never been officially announced, it has been pencilled in for February.

India has in recent years turned to West European countries for arms supplies and the sales of arms now accounts for 15 per cent of Britain's total annual exports to India, which are worth £800 million.

New Delhi has recently bought 118 Jaguar fighter bombers worth £100 million, eight Sea Harrier jump jets, also worth £100 million, and placed a £250 million order to buy Sea King helicopters equipped with Sea Eagle missiles.

Mr Heseltine was to have discussed these and other planned projects, including an order for a 155mm field gun in which Britain is competing against France, Austria and Sweden, and the joint production of light combat aircraft.

**Denial by FO**

Our Diplomatic Staff writes: The Foreign Office denied yesterday that Indian irritation concerning Sikh extremists in Britain had anything to do with postponing Mr Heseltine's visit. A spokesman said the action was understandable because of the busy political period after India's elections.

**MASS PILE-UPS**

A total of 134 vehicles, mostly driven by Yugoslavs, Greeks and Turks going home for Christmas, were in two pile-ups in the Zareb-Belgrade road at the weekend, injuring 97 people.—A.P.

## Purge of Red Guards halted by amnesty

By RICH DAVIES in Hongkong

AN AMNESTY has been declared in China to end the purging of the late Mao Tse-tung's Red Guards who created so much havoc in the late 1960s.

Details were given yesterday in a report to the Communist Party Central Committee by Bo Yibo, so-called co-ordinator of a campaign to "eradicate ultra-Leftism."

Investigations of atrocities would be halted as the former Red Guards were "too young to understand" their previous roles, he said.

The move was interpreted as a sop to Leftists, particularly within the Army, who in the past few weeks have been beginning to flex some political muscle.

These elements are thought to have been key figures during the Cultural Revolution and the scourge of intellectuals and alleged "capitalist roaders" so despised by Mao.

**Teng's proteges**

A careful reading of execution reports in recent weeks has indicated that many of the condemned, apart from being persecuted for rape and fraud, had featured heavily in the bureaucracy of the Revolution.

Teng Hsiao-ping, China's leader, seems to be increasingly anxious not to antagonise these elements.

But he was quoted yesterday as saying: "At present many foreign newspapers and journals are discussing my role. I do play a role. However, other comrades do the important work."

"I do make some decisions. But it is the comrades responsible for practical work who systematically handle problems and discharge arduous duties."

The "comrades" referred to were thought to be his proteges, Hu Yaobang, Communist Party General Secretary, and Zhao Ziyang, the Premier, both of whom are in their 60s.

## CZECH LEADER'S FREEDOM PLEDGE

By Our Rome Correspondent

The official 21,622 population of the Republic of San Marino, Europe's smallest and oldest state, increased yesterday when 1,400 ex-foreigners were naturalised under a law passed in March.

All of them have lived in San Marino for more than 30 years. Yesterday they took an oath of allegiance to the republic's government, the first being 88-year-old Angelo Valentini.

## VIETNAM 'SUB THREAT'

By DESMOND WETTER in Naval Correspondent

RUSSIA is stepping up military aid to Vietnam with the training of a submarine arm for the Vietnamese Navy and the delivery of more tanks and armoured personnel carriers.

For many months an old Russian Whiskey-class submarine has been lying at the giant former American naval base at Cam Ranh Bay, ostensibly to provide power generation with its diesel engines.

But the size of the base is such that a submarine could generate only a fraction of the electrical power needed and, according to reports reaching Thailand, the submarine's real role is to provide basic harbour training for potential Vietnamese submarine crews.

The Whiskey-class submarine at Cam Ranh Bay has been joined in recent weeks by two or three sister craft but there appear to be operational boats.

**Disruption threat**

The acquisition of submarines by Vietnam will cause profound concern in China and other South-East Asian mainland States such as Thailand which, while having no submarines, significantly has become the first Asian customer to buy the Russian anti-submarine torpedo from Marconi as part of the modernisation of its anti-submarine defences.

The Vietnamese, according to a report in Jane's Defence Weekly, are supplying their forces fighting guerrillas in Kampuchea along the Thai border with Russian-made Hind helicopter gunships.

In addition, in the autumn 60 Russian-built T-45 tanks and 15 armoured personnel carriers were shipped to the Kampuchean port of Kompong Som.

But the future deployment of Vietnamese submarines is likely to have a far wider impact since it could give the Kremlin the ability to use such submarines as "proxies" to disrupt sea communications between the Far East, notably Japan and Chinese ports, and Western Europe and the Gulf.

## RAPID RISE IN POPULATION

By Our Rome Correspondent

The official 21,622 population of the Republic of San Marino, Europe's smallest and oldest state, increased yesterday when 1,400 ex-foreigners were naturalised under a law passed in March.

All of them have lived in San Marino for more than 30 years. Yesterday they took an oath of allegiance to the republic's government, the first being 88-year-old Angelo Valentini.

**ASUB No. 3**

France's third nuclear attack submarine, the Casabianca, armed with underwater-surface SM-39 missiles, was launched in Cherbourg at the weekend.—Reuters.

## RAF famine team in Ethiopia will enjoy festivities

By R. BARRY O'BRIEN in Addis Ababa

TWO Christmas trees have been sent out from Britain to Addis Ababa for the RAF detachment in the Ethiopian famine airlift.

One from RAF Lyneham, Wilts, was brought by Mr Stanley, Armed Forces Minister, when he visited the contingent 10 days ago.

It has been put up in the canteen of the RAF base at Addis Ababa airport.

The other has been flown out by the British branch of World Vision International, a California-based religious organisation taking part in the Ethiopian relief operation, as a gift to the RAF.

The British Embassy has arranged for British Diplomats and United Nations officials living in Addis Ababa with their families to have the 70 officers and men of the RAF contingent as lunch guests on Christmas Day.

But first the two Hercules C-130 transports will fly Christmas morning surges carrying relief supplies to famine areas in North Ethiopia.

Mr Eamonn Taylor, aid co-ordinator at the British Embassy, said the loads and destinations had not yet been decided and the crews would probably not know where they were going until Christmas morning.

World Vision is using its Twin Otter aircraft to pick up British and other expatriate relief workers at famine camps tomorrow and fly them to Addis Ababa for a Christmas party.

**Kennedy visit**

Ethiopian staff at the camps will work normally on Christmas Day. Ethiopian Christians celebrate Christmas on Jan. 5 according to the Orthodox Church calendar.

Senator Edward Kennedy ended his five-day visit to Ethiopia yesterday after a three-day tour of famine areas and flew to Khartoum to see the famine and refugee crisis in the Sudan.

The Massachusetts Senator, accompanied by his son and daughter, plans to spend Christmas Day as Kassala, a Sudan border town crowded with more than 100,000 refugees from Ethiopia.

There is a measles epidemic in the town and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has described the situation as "extremely serious."

## REAGAN DECISION Relief aid for Sudan

David SHEARS reports from Washington: President Reagan has ordered an American Air Force plane to fly famine relief supplies to Ethiopian refugees pouring into the Sudan.

A C-130 Hercules transport was due yesterday at Kassala from West Germany with portable water tanks, 5,000 blankets, medical tents and other aid for the 100,000 refugees now reported to be camping in the Eastern Sudan without water or shelter.

## \$11m AID PLEA

John Myers reports from Geneva: Mr Paul Harting, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, has launched an appeal for \$11 million because of a "dramatic increase" in the numbers of Ethiopians fleeing to eastern Sudan, over 10,000 in recent weeks. The fund would be used to buy food, tents, blankets, water-storage equipment and 100,000 doses of measles vaccine.

## 6 ARAB TERROR SUSPECTS HELD

By Our Jerusalem Correspondent

Six suspected Arab terrorists have confessed to preparing an attack against the United States embassy in Tel Aviv, Israeli police said yesterday.

The attack was foiled by the security services and the six were arrested. They are also suspected of planning attacks against Israeli road traffic.

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# BMA OFFERS SAVINGS IN NHS PRESCRIPTIONS

By DAVID FLETCHER, Health Services Correspondent

**A**n offer to cut the cost of the Health Service drugs bill by a programme of more economic prescribing of medicines was made to the Government by the British Medical Association yesterday.

Dr Maurice Burrows, chairman of the BMA committee representing all NHS consultants, reiterated the Association's opposition to Government proposals

to limit the number of medicines doctors may prescribe on the NHS.

He said consultants did not find it helpful for the Government to pronounce on a matter closely involving patients and doctors without any consultation with practising doctors.

He said: "Constructively we are ready to talk with the DHSS as to how best doctors can effectively and economically prescribe for their patients."

In a letter to MPs he said that the BMA favoured rational effective and economic prescribing of drugs, and noted that former Conservative health ministers had expressed opposition to the idea of a limited list of drugs.

"It was therefore a surprise to find that without warning the Government had issued a U-turn and decided to issue a limited list of drugs in certain categories."

**Stultifying effect**  
The BMA was opposed to the idea because a centralised list of drugs would require the creation of a bureaucracy to revise and update it from time to time.

"Effective research and advances in new drugs have virtually all come from drug companies in recent years. The institution of a drug list by regulation would have a stultifying effect on research for new drugs."

"Two groups at least on the list are fields where active research is going on and is needed to go on. Instituting this list by regulation would begin an unhappy phase for the NHS."

**Flexibility allowed**  
Dr Burrows emphasised the essential difference between the system now operated in hospitals—called hospital formularies—and the proposed limited list.

Hospital formularies are drug lists arranged and agreed by those doctors who prescribe the drugs, are changed in the light of new drugs, and allow for flexibility to fit the needs of individual patients.

The Government's proposal is for a fixed list of drugs which doctors may prescribe, and the BMA is refusing to discuss which drugs should be on the list because it is opposed to the introduction of a limited list in principle.

## NAVY HAS MANNING 'NIGHTMARE'

By DESMOND WETTER, Naval Correspondent

**MANNING** the Navy's ships is becoming a nightmare in the wake of the Government's continuing insistence that there should be no change in the scale, but only in the timing of the 1981 manpower cuts.

In the June 1981 defence review, Sir John Nott, then Defence Secretary, planned to cut the number of men and women in the Navy from 66,400 to 55,000 by the mid-1980s, but now the reduction will be phased over 10 years, to the early 1990s, rather than five.

One casualty already announced is the disbanding next year of the 80-strong RN Display Team, despite its enormous public attraction and importance for recruiting.

Mr Heseltine, Defence Secretary, has further compounded the problem by insisting that there can be no revision of the manpower cuts even though 2,000 more men have to be found to man the eight destroyers and frigates he has decided to retain in commission.

**Added to problems**  
But Mr Heseltine has further added to the Navy's problems by demanding that there should be a 25 per cent. increase by 1988 in the number of men serving at sea and a further increase of 15 per cent. thereafter.

To increase numbers at sea, shore training is being drastically reduced under what is known as the "Slimtrain" plan, yet such is the complexity of modern warships that there is no room in their crews for partially trained men, many of whom in any case join their first ships after 18 weeks training.

The latest Type 23 frigates will have crews of about 180 compared with 250 in the current Leander class frigates and this will reduce still further the scope for training men at sea.



## NATURAL RADIATION HAZARD

By ADRIAN BERRY, Science Correspondent

**CORNISH** tin miners and aircraft crews are exposed to more radiation than nuclear power workers, according to figures published by the National Radiological Protection Board.

The reason, says the board, is the presence of the radioactive gas radon inside mines, and the bombardment of aircraft by cosmic rays.

But there was no cause for alarm, according to the board, since the chance of death from these forms of natural radiation were still small compared with those from accidents in the home, on the roads, or from smoking.

The board's study confirms that exposure to radon and other natural forms of radiation is the main source of radiation exposure for people in Britain.

**1,000 cancer deaths**  
Its report says that, in theory, exposure to natural forms of radiation could account for 1,000 cancer deaths a year in Britain, although this was uncertain.

"It is evident that the average exposure of a hypothetical member of the public to radiation, most of which is in any case unavoidable, adds little to the hazards of everyday living, it concludes."

A spokesman for Greenpeace, said that while it was reassuring to know that so much of radiation came from natural sources, it was important to eliminate all man-made sources.

"We should start with Wind-scale, the most polluting of all nuclear establishments," the spokesman said.

The Radiation Exposure of the U.K. Population, 1984 Review, National Radiological Protection Board, Chilton, Oxford, 26.

Nurse Sue Chadwick, 25, who flies out next month to join a Save the Children Fund team in the Sudan, pictured yesterday on the children's ward of the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester, with Mark Stokes, 4, who is recovering from a hip infection. Nurse Chadwick, who is being sponsored by Wessex members of the Royal College of Nursing, will be working at Sefawa refugee camp on the Ethiopian borders.

## Public schools accused of 'ethnic neglect'

By JOHN IZBICKI, Education Correspondent

**PUBLIC** schools are accused in a Government-funded survey of showing "complacency bordering on downright neglect" over the position of ethnic minority pupils.

The survey, conducted by researchers at Aston University and backed by the Economic and Social Research Council, is expected to reveal that most independent schools replying to a questionnaire saw no need for "multicultural policies."

In accusing public schools of complacency, the researchers, Dr Ellis Cashmore and Mr Carl Bagley, found "a disturbing lack of awareness of the possibility that racism might affect pupils of independent schools in the same way as it does those of State schools."

Originally, the project had been intended to study only ethnic relations in the West Midlands, but then the researchers decided to broaden it by questioning the heads of Headmasters' Conference schools—schools which have for over 150 years been educating foreign pupils.

Among the heads whose replies have been quoted were those who believed that it was wrong to subject race relations to the law. One wanted to see the abolition of the "race relations board" (the Commission for Racial Equality).

The report says it was "disarming to realise that our future controllers, the powerholders of tomorrow, are being educated in an atmosphere influenced by such ideas."

Mr David Smith, headmaster of Bradford Grammar School, said that his pupils, all of them highly intelligent, were "either Anglicised or anxious to become so."

And Mr Bruce McGowan, head of Haberdashers' Aske's at Elstree, Herts, was cited as saying that it was everyone's right to be different and that the school had a strong tradition of tolerance.

### 'Complete rubbish'

Last night Mr McGowan, who takes over the chairmanship of the Headmasters' conference from Jan. 1, told me that it was "complete rubbish" to suggest that, because a school did not have a laid-down policy about ethnic minorities, that it was displaying neglect and ignorance of such matters.

"There is no lack of awareness at independent schools. What we do is to produce the right kind of tolerant atmosphere and then watch out for breaches of it."

He said that Dr Cashmore and Mr Bagley had written to him, as to other HMC heads, to say they were conducting this research in view of the report being produced (after five years) by Lord Swann's committee of inquiry into ethnic education.

They asked for details of particular curriculum initiatives taken by the school regarding ethnic minority pupils, the percentage of such pupils at the school, and the head's own views of race relations.

"I told them that we had quite a substantial number of ethnic minority pupils at the school but that we never actually count them, partly because the very process of counting can lead to just the kind of adverse discrimination we should all be firmly opposed to," Mr McGowan said.

"The fact of the matter is that most people here are colour-blind and it takes something of a conscious effort to notice who comes from an ethnic minority and who does not."

**Academic criteria**  
Haberdashers' Aske's has no specific curriculum for pupils from minority cultures. Admissions procedure is strictly on academic criteria and no account is taken of race, colour, religion or any other such irrelevant factors," Mr McGowan said.

In the 11 years Mr McGowan has been head of Haberdashers', he could recall "at least" three Jewish head boys and three Jewish vice-captains and there were several black prefects there at present.

Both the present school captain and vice-captain at Dulwich College are black and the heads of many other independent schools, which have between five and 15 per cent pupils either from overseas or from ethnic minority groups in Britain, can also show black pupils in high ranking positions both socially and academically.

The Aston survey appears to have ignored a major report from H.M. Inspectors, published in September, which found that ethnic minority children were spurning offers of lessons in their mother tongue because their parents preferred them to learn subjects that would prove more useful to them, like Education Column Page 1.

## Port to rival Felixstowe proposed

By JOHN PETTY, Shipping Correspondent

**A** PLAN to reclaim mud-flats between Harwich and Parkeston Quay to create a port to rival Felixstowe on the other side of the Stour-Orwell estuary is being drawn up by Sealink.

Together with rival plans by European Ferries for more expansion at Felixstowe, it could make the estuary the most important harbour in Britain.

Felixstowe is already Britain's busiest container port and has just begun work on a 400 million expansion to boost current capacity by 50 per cent, creating 520 new jobs. And it has drawn up a Parliamentary Bill for still more expansion that could involve another £100 million.

The potential for development of the mudflats on the south side of the estuary near Harwich has always been recognised. But the money was never available while Sealink, owner of Parkeston Quay, was part of British Railways.

**Better links**  
Denationalisation last July put Sealink into the hands of a new company, British Ferries, set up by Sea Containers, and Sea Containers is looking very hard at huge investment to expand Parkeston Quay.

As one of the world's major container companies, it is well placed to plan the scheme. Parkeston has the advantages of far better road and rail communications to the London area than has Felixstowe.

Many containers are already handled at Parkeston via the drive-on ferries of Sealink and DFDS Danish Seaways.

DFDS has just created another 75 jobs at Parkeston by moving its British headquarters to the port of London. It employs more than 200 in the Harwich area, having just completed integration of the Tor Line and Prins Line services with those of DFDS.

Tor Line was previously in Felixstowe with a service to Sweden. Prins Line operates to West Germany and DFDS itself to Denmark. DFDS acquired Tor and Prins a few years ago and operates them from Parkeston.

Sealink is the other big ferry firm there, with services to the Hook of Holland led by the Vloketon St Nicholas, the biggest ferry operating from Britain.

## FREEZER CHARGE

A man will appear before magistrates at Ilkeston, Derbyshire, today, charged with the murder of Mr Ernest Grainger, 58, of Heanor Road, Codnor, near Ilkeston, whose body was found in a freezer at a Derby House on Friday.

## CHRISTMAS BRIDGE COMPETITION

QUESTIONS on bidding are based on a modern form of standard British method, consistent with either the two-Club System or Acol, with an opening No Trump on 12-14 points non-vulnerable and 15-17 points vulnerable, with Stayman asking for a four-card major suit. Opening bids of three and higher are pre-emptive. Blackwood is used for slams. Unless stated, all problems relate to rubber bridge.

The eight highest entries (maximum 300 marks) will win prizes—first prize £25, second prize £20, both with packs of Daily Telegraph playing cards boxed with scorepads, plus six other prizes of boxed playing cards.

Entries, marked "Bridge Competition" on envelope, must be received by Thursday, Jan. 10, addressed to: THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, 155, Fleet Street, London EC4.

Amended answers cannot be accepted after an entry has been submitted. Answers will be published on Saturday, Jan. 12.

**BIDDING**  
1. With North-South vulnerable North deals and opens 1NT (16-18). East passes. As South, what do you say on:

(a) ♠Q864, ♥K7, ♦A, ♣K1086. (b) ♠865, ♥K5, ♦KQ1087, ♣A. (c) ♠KQ1087, ♥5, ♦A, ♣K1087. (d) ♠764, ♥A, ♦KQ1087, ♣5. (e) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (f) ♠A54, ♥K76, ♦KQ1087, ♣5. (g) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (h) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (i) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (j) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (k) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (l) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (m) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (n) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (o) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (p) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (q) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (r) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (s) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (t) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (u) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (v) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (w) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (x) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (y) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (z) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (aa) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (ab) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (ac) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (ad) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (ae) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (af) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (ag) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. (ah) ♠KQ1087, ♥A, ♦K1086, ♣5. 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## The Saudi Arabian National Guard Office

Announces the intention of a Governmental Department in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to fill certain appointments with highly qualified, exceptionally well experienced persons.

The successful candidates will have suitable accommodation, a free car, free medical treatment and a salary commensurate with qualifications and position and the position of responsibility.

**MS 1 Biomedical Equipment Specialist**  
**QUALIFICATIONS:** University Degree (pref. post-graduate) in Biomedical, Electronic or Electrical Engineering.  
**EXPERIENCE:** Minimum of eight years experience in a hospital or other health care institution or administration, must have been involved in planning, organisation or coordination in relation to biomedical equipment, and more particularly in the selection of biomedical equipment, and the administration of biomedical equipment.

**MS 2 Consultant on Employment & Human Resources**  
**QUALIFICATIONS:** University Degree in Personnel Management or Business Administration.  
**EXPERIENCE:** Minimum of ten years experience in personnel administration, including a senior position in the personnel section of a hospital or other health care institution. The required experience should include setting of employment policies, advice on methods of recruitment, selection, training, and development, and type organisation. Fluency in English is a requirement and fluency in Arabic preferred.

**MS 3 Consultant on Medical Supply & Procurement**  
**QUALIFICATIONS:** University Degree in Business Administration. Must have studied purchasing and procurement.  
**EXPERIENCE:** Minimum of ten years experience in medical purchasing and procurement management, including a senior position in the purchasing section of a hospital or other health care institution. The required experience should include taking and controlling methods and standards on purchasing, particularly with regard to safety.

**MS 4 Public Health Specialist**  
**QUALIFICATIONS:** Graduate of an accredited medical school with a Master of Public Health in Preventive Medicine.  
**EXPERIENCE:** Minimum of ten years experience as a Preventive Medicine/Community Medicine Specialist. Experience should include implementation of environmental sanitation programs (pest and vector control, disposal of waste, etc.), prevention of environmental pollution, and improvement of public utility services (water and food supply, sewage, etc.). Fluency in Arabic preferred.

**MS 5 Consultant on Medical Education**  
**QUALIFICATIONS:** Masters Degree in Health Care/Hospital Administration. Must have studied medical training programs and hospital accreditation rules within the curriculum.

**EXPERIENCE:** Minimum experience of ten years in the medical field which should include five years in curriculum design for programs of graduates and continuing medical education, and knowledge of hospital accreditation rules.

**MS 6 Hospital Administration & Management Consultant**  
**QUALIFICATIONS:** Masters Degree in Health Care/Hospital Administration. Must have studied hospital administration, including a senior position in the hospital administration section of a hospital or other health care institution. The required experience should include setting of hospital policies, advice on methods of recruitment, selection, training, and development, and type organisation. Fluency in English is a requirement and fluency in Arabic preferred.

**MS 7 Financial Analysis & Budgeting Consultant**  
**QUALIFICATIONS:** Degree in Accounting or Financial Management (pref. Masters Degree) with a minimum of five years experience in a hospital or other health care institution. The required experience should include setting of financial policies, advice on methods of recruitment, selection, training, and development, and type organisation. Fluency in English is a requirement and fluency in Arabic preferred.

**MS 8 Medical Records Consultant**  
**QUALIFICATIONS:** University degree in an appropriate specialty. Graduate of an approved school of medical records.  
**EXPERIENCE:** Minimum experience of eight years in medical records administration, including a senior position in the medical records section of a hospital or other health care institution. The required experience should include setting of medical records policies, advice on methods of recruitment, selection, training, and development, and type organisation. Fluency in English is a requirement and fluency in Arabic preferred.

**MS 9 Dietitian**  
**QUALIFICATIONS:** Masters Degree in Foods and Nutrition from an accredited institution with a minimum of five years experience in a hospital or other health care institution. The required experience should include setting of dietetic policies, advice on methods of recruitment, selection, training, and development, and type organisation. Fluency in English is a requirement and fluency in Arabic preferred.

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## CAREERS INFORMATION

## Air traffic control

I am taking my O levels in 1985 and I would appreciate some information on air traffic control with a view to a career in this field. — C.B., Lanes.

The air traffic control officer (ATCO) controls aircraft during passage, directing their movements while approaching or leaving the airport, and during take-off and landing. He does this with the assistance of radar, radio, telephone and other electronic equipment in collaboration with aircraft flightcrews.

To be eligible for training as an ATCO you must be aged 18 to 25, with GCE passes in five subjects, including English language and mathematics. Two of the passes must be at A level, and one of these must be maths, a science subject, or geography. The training of ATCOs lasts for 24 years, and includes flying instruction to private pilot's licence standard.

Air traffic control assistants help ATCOs in various ways. The minimum age limit is 17. Applicants should possess GCE O-level passes or equivalent in four subjects, including English language and either maths or a science subject.

You can get careers information by sending a s.a.e. to the Civil Aviation Authority (Personnel Services), PATC2, Room T, 1220, CAA House, 45-59 Kingsway, London WC2B 6TE.

**Picture restoring**  
 My son is taking his A levels next summer, to include history of art. He thinks of making a career in art restoration, but hard facts on the subject seem difficult to come by. — P.K.T., E. Sussex.

There are not many openings in art restoration, but conservators of easel paintings are employed in

processes, science of paintings etc. Gatedhead Technical College, the only place which will take students at A levels — though most art graduates — says the preferred subjects are art and chemistry, or another science such as physics. Post-graduate courses are available at the Courtauld Institute of Art, London, and the Hamilton-Kerr Institute which is part of the University of Cambridge.

It should be added that training is different depending on the sort of art objects one wishes to conserve. "Training in Conservation" lists most of the available courses and can be obtained for 50p from the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, c/o Conservation Dept., Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1P 4RG.

**The 'gap' year**  
 Having applied for university entrance in 1985, I am now becoming increasingly interested in taking a year off. I am looking for a year in which I can find a beneficial plan. I am aiming at some kind of work or study abroad. What advice can you offer? — S.D., Somerset.

If you are interested in a year off, the best plan is to get the book of the same title, which is packed with ideas, addresses and information on different kinds of occupation, including jobs and voluntary work as well as courses, that can be done by people taking a break between school and university. "A Year Off" is published by the Careers Research & Advisory Centre (CRAC) and costs £1.85 plus 60p postage from Honsons Ltd, Boleyn Street, Cambridge. Another recommended publication is "Jobs in the 'Gap Year'" published by the Independent Schools Careers Organisation, 12a-18a Princess Way, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 5SP, price £1.50 by post.

**Going to sea**  
 My younger son is interested in joining the merchant navy and I would be grateful if you could supply some information on this. — J.P., Cornwall.

Unfortunately, it is a bad time to be entering the merchant navy, which has already been cut and will be cut again within the next few years. The British Shipping Careers Office has closed because of poor prospects for young people.

That said, a few opportunities still exist, and minimum qualifications

for museums, art galleries and in area museums services which have conservation departments. Training for the restoration of easel paintings is almost always post-graduate, and students have degrees in such subjects as fine art, history of art, or chemistry.

Whatever degree is chosen, it is essential to keep up with chemistry to A-level standard. Paints have to be analysed, and some people study such things as the history of materials and techniques, conservation

into a seven-inch greased cake tin and cook in a pre-heated moderate oven for 14 hours.

Mrs Thatcher added her recipe for icing: 8 oz icing sugar; 23 tbs concentrated orange juice.

Warm icing sugar and orange juice together in a pan until smooth. Stir in the cake with this mixture while icing is still warm. And she adds: "Be careful not to overheat the icing when blending."

Tasters' verdict: "Good and nice"; "Good"; "Absolutely perfect"; "No good"; "Don't like her, but I like her cake"; "Typically blither-sweet—only fair."

Bishop's Velvet — by Ken Livingstone: 1 lb double cream (whip until thick); 1 pt carton natural yoghurt; 15 oz can halved apricots; demerara sugar.

Method: Line a bowl with the apricots; mix yoghurt and cream and pour over. Put half-litre of sugar over the top. Leave in fridge overnight for a few hours and it will form a crust.

Tasters' comments: "Delicious"; "Very good but too sweet"; "Lifeless"; "Absolutely beautiful"; "Yummy"; "Gourmet delight."

There were many others. For example, Arthur Scargill, not quite playing the game, wrote: "My favourite food is a very traditional English dish called 'Fish and Chips' and although I have tried many national and international dishes, I always find my favourite dish comes out tops."

And Lambeth Labour MP John Fraser's recipe was a little too ambitious for the children to cook. He picked out chicken "fried the old-fashioned way" — fried in a rolling pin into an escalope — then marinated in lemon, garlic, crushed whole pep-

pers and other spices to taste — fried gently in a little oil until tender and then immersed in white wine, cream and parmesan and served with an assortment of vegetables.

Every good English meal should, of course, end with a decent cuppa and who better to ask than tea drinker extraordinaire, Tony Benn? He wrote:

"Take one pint of pure water and boil it in a kettle with North Sea gaff; add one tea bag from the Com-

monwealth. Some milk and sugar from the Third World and stir until the tea assumes a satisfying deep brown colour. Then remove the tea bag and take every hour, or more often. I hope that all goes well."

The tasters took this in their stride. Comments ranged from "No good"; "Not bad, and the suggestion of a home-made 'bottle' of tea is normal."

I hope none of these dishes poison you and that you have a happy and peaceful Christmas.

**DESK DIARY**  
 Councils seems to be obsessed with sex. Would they be obsessed with education?

THOSE who have enjoyed reading the main part of my column might like to know that Tante Marie, a cookery school whose motto is "home cooking of home-baked food" is offering a £5,000 scholarship.

The scholarship is for its Cordun Bira diploma course, which lasts two years and starts on Jan. 8. Candidates must be aged 18-25 and be currently unemployed. They should be able to show a real interest in cookery (minimum requirement: an O-level in the subject at grade A or B). The scholar will have to meet accommodation expenses, probably with a local family in the school's area at Woking, Surrey.

To compete, simply write a letter setting out why you feel you deserve to be awarded such a scholarship and send it to: Tante Marie, Cookery School, Woodhouse, Carleton Road, Woking, Surrey GU21 4HF. Letters should be sent as quickly as possible as the winner will be picked at the start of the new year.

## Your questions answered

The Careers Information Service is maintained by Careers Intelligence. It is free to readers. Questions should be sent only to:

The Daily Telegraph Careers Information Service, 121 High Street, Barkingham, Herts, HP4 2DJ.

A stamped and addressed envelope must be enclosed. Readers are asked to ensure their names and addresses are legible.

for deck officers are usually four O levels, including mathematics, a physics-based science and English language. It is unwise, however, to offer only the minimum.

The one way in which you can find out if any shipping lines are currently recruiting is by writing directly to personnel officers. You will find addresses in "The Directory of Shipowners, Shipbuilders and Marine Engineers" (IPC Industrial Publications), which should be available in the larger public libraries.

**Inside job**  
 Could you give me some information regarding study and career possibilities in interior design? — J.N.U., Kent.

The usual way of training as an interior designer is to take a foundation course at a school of art, and then a degree in interior design. Minimum educational requirements are five O levels, but colleges are increasingly demanding A levels.

However, there are some two-year courses leading to a DATEC diploma in interior design, for which entry requirements are three O levels or CSE Grade 1 passes. Some of the successful students from DATEC courses may then go on to take either a higher diploma or a degree course. Some colleges provide courses leading to the qualifications of the British Institute of Interior Design, 10 Devonshire Ave., Beeston, Nottingham NG9 1BS.

Courses at all levels are listed in the Directory of Further Education (CRAC), and in "Design Courses in Britain" (Design Council, 28 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4SU, price £4 by post). The Design Council will provide a free leaflet, "Careers in Design," which mentions interior design briefly. Another free leaflet, "Careers in Art & Design" can be had on sending a s.a.e. to the Society of Industrial Artists & Designers, 12 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH.

The range of work taken on by interior designers has expanded in recent years, the trend for modernising and rehabilitating houses having created a big demand. The large architectural firms, department stores, broadcasting companies, restaurants and retail chains also employ in-house interior designers.

**Leisure industry**  
 I understand that the leisure industry is a major growth area, but I really don't know what fields it covers or how one might get into it. — K. McC., Dorset.

The major employers of leisure and recreation managers are the local authorities, which are responsible for the arts, for community centres, sports centres, parks, youth clubs, adventure playgrounds, children's holiday activities and anything that can be done in one's spare time. The private sector has also been building clubs and centres catering for subgroups and water sports, riding, tennis, the parks, zoos etc., while water authorities encourage sailing and other sports. There are also jobs to be found with voluntary associations such as the

London College of Furniture, 41-71 Commercial Road, London E1 1LA; Norwich City College of Further and Higher Education, Ipswich Road, Norwich NR3 2JJ; School of Art and Design, Furniture and Timber, Buckinghamshire College of Higher Education, Queen Alexandra's Road, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP11 2JN; Ryeview College, Thame, Oxon, and Shrewsbury College of Arts and Technology, London Road, Shrewsbury, Shropshire.

"A Practical Guide to Woodworking Careers" can be obtained for £6.95 from the Guild of Master Craftsmen Publications, Parklands House, Burgess Hill, West Sussex RH15 0BA. It is likely that, at interview, you will have to produce a portfolio of some kind to prove his interest in cabinet making. He should take sketches and photographs of any items of furniture or models that he has produced.

**NEXT WEEK: Backstage in the theatre.** By John Dymun.

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**FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
 APPEAR TODAY ON PAGE 17

## SITUATIONS VACANT

MUN-ON (minimum wages) and SEMI-DISPLAYED with 10 years experience in the field of medical planning. Must have a minimum of five years experience in a supervisory position dealing with development of medical records systems in a university hospital or medical centre. Fluency in English is a requirement and fluency in Arabic preferred.

**GENERAL**  
 A.C.V. (minimum wages) and SEMI-DISPLAYED with 10 years experience in the field of medical planning. Must have a minimum of five years experience in a supervisory position dealing with development of medical records systems in a university hospital or medical centre. Fluency in English is a requirement and fluency in Arabic preferred.



LOOKING back over the year's theatre, I am struck by the resurgence of the independent management—the poor fellows who get by with a few tens of thousands from their busy box-offices.

They have done it by taking the advice of Jean Cocteau to our entertainers: "Astound them. This is the theatre's best (and only) possible answer to cinema and television. It will remain astounded that Glenda Jackson had the temerity to appear in Eugene O'Neill's 41-hour 'Strange Interlude' and later, superbly, in Jean Racine's 'Phedra'—both for unsubsidised producers.

Again, it was a commercial outfit which coaxed Maggie Smith back to the stage at long last for a dazzling appearance with a superb Joan Plowright in Congreve's notoriously difficult 'The Way of the World'.

Achievements like this last make one grateful for Duncan Weldon's star-in-a-golden-carriage policy at the Haymarket during a year which also included Vanessa Redgrave's harrowing performance there in Michael Frayn's 'The Aspern Papers'. My best moment at this year's award ceremony was Miss Redgrave's speech of self-conscious acceptance of her statuette with the touching words: "...and I should like to thank my father for writing the play."

On another level, nothing during 1984 set out to astonish more thoroughly than Andrew Lloyd Webber's puffery-entertainment extravaganza 'Starlight Express', the epitome of all that cannot be experienced on public screen or private video. The hottest ticket in town, its success has driven its producers to advertise desperately for anyone with talent willing to be taught, free, to move fast on eight little wheels.

One grant-aided house, the Lyric Hammersmith, also astounded with John Dexter's interpretation of J. P. Sartre's 'The Devil and the Good Lord'.

another marathon and superbly done. The bigger subsidised houses, on the other hand, have too frequently astounded with the obviousness of their offerings. At the National, I admired Frances de la Tour's bustling peasant, as thoroughly modern as the 'Shakespeare' 'Saint Joan'. But the play is so rare that the Royal Shakespeare Company's sumptuous revival of a minor farce like 'The Hapless Rascal' is a major achievement. The NT's 'Machibet' and 'Machibet' betrayed their directors' notion that audiences would rather dine on canapés than red meat.

Which of these richly endowed outfits will be the first, I wonder, to take the town and ease their money anxieties by being the first to stage Von Kleist's 'The Broken Jug', or Schiller's 'The Robbers', or Corneille's 'The Illusion', whose imaginative revival by Giorgio Strehler has dazzled Paris. If they are not careful, the commercial theatre in its present mood will beat them to such enterprises. Astound me! The only chance of making a killing is to back an outsider.

I wish people would not sneer at the risks taken by the popular theatre. Rowan Atkinson took a big gamble by starring in a poor American comedy 'The Nerd'. So did Griff Rhys Jones by starring in an esoteric Italian political frolic, 'Trumpets and Raspberries'.

So did the classical actor Michael Williams in attempting farce for the first time in Ray Cooney's 'Two Into One'. So did David Merrick, in spending a fortune reviving an historic old movie, '2nd Street', when all that cannot be experienced on public screen or private video, its success has driven its producers to advertise desperately for anyone with talent willing to be taught, free, to move fast on eight little wheels.

One grant-aided house, the Lyric Hammersmith, also astounded with John Dexter's interpretation of J. P. Sartre's 'The Devil and the Good Lord'.

Checkov-Frayn 'Wild Honey', 'Othello', 'A Raisin in the Sun' and 'Coriolanus'. This last was a far finer production of the national poet than anything staged in London by the RSC. At Stratford, though, they won high praise for a 'Richard III' with Anthony Sher and a 'Love's Labour's Lost' (designer, Bob Crowley) with Kenneth Branagh and Josette Simon. Few were captivated, however, by Judi Dench in the RSC's idea of Brecht's 'Mother Courage', a simple case of miscasting. Still, we all come croppers: none disappointed more than Tom Stoppard, whose aptly named 'Rosencrantz and Guildenstern' for the NT turned a Molnar soufflé into stodge.

As for new plays, young men like Doug Lucie ('Progress'), Don Webb ('Black Ball Game') and Willy Russell ('Stags and Hens') were beginning to make some older authors—Mr Stoppard will recover—seem artistic. How I wish more living writers were as alive as these three to what is happening here, now, today—or as Pam Gems was in 'Loving Women', which had so much to show about young people's life styles and marital mistakes, or as Richard Harris in his sparkling comedy 'Stepping Out' about the amateur tap-dancers of modern suburbia.

It seems a pity that so many writers retreat, however effectively, into the dim and foreign past, as Stephen Poliakoff did in 'Breathless' (Russia, 1920) or Ronald Harwood in 'Tramway Road' (Cape Town, 1951). It is an odd year which finds our prime Left-wing iconoclast, Howard Brenton, producing a rather good piece about Shelley and Byron ('Bloody Poetry'). The reason Michael Frayn's 'Benefactors' has scooped all the awards, including mine, is that it is a play of the year, in that it is a play about the year, at the end of the world today. When the dramatist is the wounded surgeon who piles the steel, we feel the sharp compassion of the healer's art.

John Barber



Bonnie Langford and Paul Nicholas in 'Cinderella' at the Wimbledon Theatre.

## PANTOMIME / Cinderella

THE BRASH, boisterous and wholly conventional pantomime at Wimbledon, 'Cinderella', delighted the 1-year-old daughter. Important fact. But the show left me feeling how much more enjoyable it would have been if the talented artists were firmly directed and provided with worthy material.

Obviously, the programme names, producers, director, designer, lighting man—but no author. And indeed the dialogue sounds as if the actors had made it up on the way to the theatre. Do you speak English? "Yes." Then don't. Or else sags have merely been borrowed: "I'm going to get my foot into the crystal slipper." "You couldn't get your foot into the Crystal Palace." Not one keeps praying that one again.

Yet the whole show, staged by Carole Todd, bustles along merrily with some charming juveniles (the Babette Palmer Young Set) to get us in the mood, and dear old Bill Owen (Baron Hardup) to chuck sweets at the kids and get them to velle on cue when anyone tries to steal his wellies. In fact, the kids provide most of their own entertainment—sneaking and whistling when the Sisters descend on the Ugly Sisters, raising the roof with a com-

munity song, and going on stage to tell competent jokes and confide what they want of Father Christmas. A pony on the backboard," says one wig-wombleton mite. With such co-operation, who needs a script?

I do. Then the delightful Bonnie Langford's Cinders would have more to do than high-kick and stomp (the handsome Paul Nicholas (Buttons) could have shown the wit and verve he brought to 'Cats', the likeable Ugly Sisters (an Ugly Sister and Simon Barry) would have fulfilled the expectations they always arouse, and the fine singing voice of Maureen Scott (Prince Charming) would not have been confined to ancient top songs.

This left in a class of its own the ventriloquist act of Ward Allen and his stuffed dogs (but why are vents' dolls so hideous nowadays?). It is not a great act, but every word had been properly thought out, timed, rehearsed.

The cheery goings-on elsewhere were just the profession's usual slapdash response to the seasonal demand for bright lights, telly names and a noisy noise from the orchestra pit.

J.B.

## ART / André Derain

MARCEL DUCHAMP once declared that André Derain belonged to a small group of artists who "live" their art. The reason why this is so is made clear by the exhibition of his watercolours and sculpture at Stoppenbach and Deleste, 25, Cork Street, Mayfair, which continues until Jan. 26.

Today there is a reaction against both the cerebral qualities and the downright silliness of much of modern art. These works are neither intellectual nor pretentious. They are sometimes wicked, inconsequential and certainly great fun.

If one thing springs to mind it is Picasso at his most light-hearted. This is revealing, for Derain occupies a serious place in the history of art. He is remembered as one of the Fauve movement, as one of those artists who return strength of colour

to European painting. Then, according to the usually accepted image of Derain, he reverted to an eclectic and duller style.

This sparkling little exhibition should provide a corrective. The simplicity of design and the clarity of many of these watercolours remind us that Derain was aware of Cubism. There is also plenty of evidence, above all in the small bronzes, that he was aware of the use of a secret password.

In both the watercolours and sculpture there is a sense of eager, almost childish excitement. Derain is often insouciant, but he is seldom unconsidered, while we continue to delight in his vivid, even wicked, imagination. It would be wrong to dismiss even the perkiest of these drawings as childish.

Terence Mullaney

## WEEKEND VIEWING / Much ado about the Bard

THE filming of Shakespeare in Perspective (BBC2) is always so restless that it is a task to keep the speaker in perspective. But as Eleanor Bron flitted elegantly about Brighthelm Castle and its grounds on Saturday night she at least managed the telling point that Beatrice and Benedick exist in "An enclosed society like the B.C.C."

Two hours later when the Bardathon continued with Much Ado About Nothing (BBC2), it could be observed that the rosette-like villain Don John (Veronica Dobson) was the kind of obsessive office politician whose work consists of undermining his colleagues.

John the bastard was not the only character who appeared to be taking part in some internal tug-of-war. Leonardo (Lee Montague) had achieved his position by trimming to the wind of the board of management. He considered his daughter Hero one of his finest productions until his superiors suspected her of being less than she pretended. He was at once loudest in condemnation of her.

Down in the studios Beatrice and Benedick were making the most of their programmes about courtship and marriage. The Beatrice of Cherie Lunchi was sharp bright-eyed and teasing quick tongue, especially on the subject of men, decidedly an Anna Karenina figure. Robert Lindsay's similarly nervy Benedick had been her spring partner on this panel for so long that he managed to stay only a couple of steps behind her.

This was the second Bardathon attempt at "Much Ado" the first being junked as unworthy of transmission during the 1970s production reign of Frederic Maessia. Maessia in the 13th century remains the nominal setting but the more expert casting of this Shaun Sutton production has ensured that the play is brought down to earth with dark realism allowing to show beneath the surface gaiety.

Like the David Jones "Pericles" a fortnight ago, this was a production worth waiting for to be marked on the plus side when the Bardathon is assessed as a whole next year. Director Stuart Burge has conveyed the swinging movement and found the references to life today without radical departures from the text. He incidentally ensured that this BBC play employed excellent musicians.

Heavier musical underlining was to be found last night with Judy Allen's December Flower (ITV), a Granada fairy story cast to arouse maximum nostalgia among all who remember the British cinema around the middle of the century. I had thought they did not make films like this any more.

Jean Simmons, acting with an emotional truth I had thought beyond her range, was the good fairy who found time to bring new life and contentment to her frail old aunt, Mona Washbourne. Pat Heywood was the wicked fairy, the villainess, the multi-alphabetic, with whom Jean battled. Bryan Forbes was the stiff and unlikely son of the house and June Ritchie was his sour wife. Sympathetic direction by Stephen Frears touchingly suspended disbelief.

S.D.L.

THE pantomime season is just the right time to have a go at "Der Schauspieler". Mozart's party-piece provided a light-hearted conclusion to the Endymion Ensemble's fifth birthday concert which John Whitfield conducted at the Queen Elizabeth Hall.

To entertain some visitors at his summer palace Joseph II commissioned a light show in the Endymion Ensemble's fifth birthday concert which John Whitfield conducted at the Queen Elizabeth Hall.

## ADRIAN BERRY'S

# Christmas science quiz

ONCE AGAIN, here is a Christmas Science Quiz. There will be three prizes of book tokens, of £25, £20 and £15, for the most nearly correct set of answers to reach me by Jan. 14.

The answers, with the names of winners, will appear later next month. As always, in the case of a disputed answer, the editorial decision is final. The quiz is open to everyone, including winners of previous years.

1. WHO SAID:  
(a) "For hysterical maidens I prescribe marriage, for they are cured by pregnancy."  
(b) "Gentlemen do not read each others' mail!"  
(c) "If an injury has to be done to a man it should be so severe that his vengeance need not be feared."  
(d) "Genius, as an explosive power, beats gunpowder hollow."  
(e) "It is much better to know something about everything than to know everything about one thing."  
(f) "Do you not think it worthy of lamentation that where there is such a multitude of worlds, we have not yet conquered one of them?"  
(g) "I had been present at the creation; I would have saved some useful hints for the better order of the universe."

2. WITH WHAT chemical elements would you associate the names of (a) King Midas, (b) Arthur Scargill, (c) Margaret Thatcher, (d) Judas Iscariot, (e) Robert Peel, (f) Neil Armstrong, (g) Joseph Kesselring, (h) William B. Shockley, (i) Enrico Fermi, (j) Edward Teller, (k) Augustus Caesar, (l) King George III, (m) Basil Valentine.

3. AT WHAT temperature are measurements in Centigrade and Fahrenheit the same?  
4. THE EARTH'S circumference is longer round the equator than round the poles. How much longer?

5. WHAT FRACTION of the sun's energy does the earth receive?  
6. HOW LONG would it take a light year to traverse the diameter of the earth's orbit?

7. HOW MANY dimensions is the universe believed to contain?  
8. IN BRIDGE:  
a. How many different 15-card hands are possible to hold without aces?  
b. What are the chances of being dealt such a hand?

9. How many dialects are spoken in India?  
10. How many letters are there in the Cambodian alphabet?  
11. AMERICAN scientists recently drew attention to what might be a carved "face" on

the surface of Mars. What is the latitude and longitude of this object on the Martian surface?

12. OF WHAT scientist was it said: "He might not have been the most detestable man in France, but he was certainly the most detested?"

13. HOW MANY people were killed directly by the Great Fire of London in 1666?

14. THE SCOTTISH inventor David Hutton invented a tiny mill for twisting twine. What was its power source?

15. AT THE present rate of land subsidence of the continent of Western Europe, how long will it take for the top of the Eiffel Tower to disappear beneath the Atlantic Ocean?

16. CONSTRUCT a "magic square" consisting of 16 numbers in which the sum of each of the lines, vertical, diagonal and horizontal, and the numbers in each of the four corners, are all equal to 54.  
17. NAME (a) the hottest place on earth, (b) the coldest.

18. What is the most efficient way to produce light?  
19. THE FOLLOWING numbers are all prime products, that is two prime numbers multiplied together. Name, in each case, the hidden prime factors: (a) 1,081 (b) 4,189 (c) 58,277 (d) 99,067 (e) 247,021 (f) 5,574,505.

20. THE name Julia Czechenyi is a pseudonym. What is the real name of the woman who has been called the key to the mystery?

21. THE first of these, the One-Time Pad, is widely used by governments and spies. The One-Time Pad is not a temporary message, as its name might suggest. It means rather the encipherment of text with a key consisting of a series of random numbers. Both sender and receiver each possess this secret key and its security lies in the fact that the key is destroyed after transmission and receipt of each message. Hence the expression "one-time".

The Pad works well in peacetime, when only a small number of messages are being sent every day. But in wartime, or during a complex crisis, it can break down completely. The problem is that the key has to be the same length as the message. In a period of high traffic, with hundreds of thousands of messages being sent daily, a huge number of secret keys have to be distributed in advance. A task that can be equivalent to putting several volumes of the Encyclopaedia Britannica every day.

These keys have to be distributed by couriers for they cannot themselves be enciphered. And if a courier is robbed, kidnapped or assassinated, then the entire set of keys he was carrying must be destroyed and new ones created.

A new cipher has been invented which is just as secure as the One-Time Pad and much easier to use. Not only that, it also eliminates the need for couriers. For the first time, it is now possible for two people who have never previously met or communicated to send each other enciphered messages which no outsider has the slightest chance of being able to crack.

This may sound like magic, but it is only simple mathematics. Its security depends on the extreme difficulty of finding hidden prime numbers.

A prime number, as most people are aware, is one like 2, 3, 5 or 7 that is divisible only by itself and 1. Multiply two prime numbers together, say 3 and 5, and you have the "prime product" 15. Now everyone knows that 15 is the product of the primes 3 and 5. But it is because it is a number only two digits long. But if a prime product is more than 100 digits long, it can take more than 70 years, even on the world's most powerful computers, to discover its hidden primes.

Someone wishing to receive secret messages uses a computer to construct a "public key," equivalent to a Post Office box number which, in essence, consists of an extremely long prime product. There is nothing secret about this public key. It can even be printed in a newspaper. For it is impossible to find out, within a reasonable time, the two prime numbers of which it is the product and which form the user's "secret key," known only to himself.

The public key is used to encipher messages and the secret key is used to decipher them. Thus, to encipher a message one does not need any secret key at all. One needs only to know the public key of the person one is writing to. For the secret key is needed for couriers or secret meetings before an absolutely secure system of secret communication can be set up.

Consider how difficult it would be to crack what is known as the R.S.A. Public Key Cipher, named after its three inventors, Rivest, Shamir and Adleman. Here are some estimates of how long it would take to discover the hidden primes in numbers of varying lengths, using the Cray supercomputer, the world's fastest computer:

Number of digits	Period
15	a few seconds
50	3-5 hours
75	10-15 days
100	14 years
200	3,800 million years
300	4,000 trillion years
500	42 trillion trillion years

This form of secret writing is utterly different from anything that has ever been used before. It is like a Public Key Cipher, named after its three inventors, Rivest, Shamir and Adleman. Here are some estimates of how long it would take to discover the hidden primes in numbers of varying lengths, using the Cray supercomputer, the world's fastest computer:

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500	42 trillion trillion years

Here is a simple problem that shows the difficulties of discovering the secret key when only a short prime product is available. Take the number 5,458,157. To someone who knows a little history as well as arithmetic, this number is ominous. It suggests the unbreakable code of the R.S.A. Public Key Cipher. A 2, 3, 5 or 7 that is divisible only by itself and 1. Multiply two prime numbers together, say 3 and 5, and you have the "prime product" 15. Now everyone knows that 15 is the product of the primes 3 and 5. But it is because it is a number only two digits long. But if a prime product is more than 100 digits long, it can take more than 70 years, even on the world's most powerful computers, to discover its hidden primes.

Here is a simple problem that shows the difficulties of discovering the secret key when only a short prime product is available. Take the number 5,458,157. To someone who knows a little history as well as arithmetic, this number is ominous. It suggests the unbreakable code of the R.S.A. Public Key Cipher. A 2, 3, 5 or 7 that is divisible only by itself and 1. Multiply two prime numbers together, say 3 and 5, and you have the "prime product" 15. Now everyone knows that 15 is the product of the primes 3 and 5. But it is because it is a number only two digits long. But if a prime product is more than 100 digits long, it can take more than 70 years, even on the world's most powerful computers, to discover its hidden primes.

## AT HOME WITH COMPUTERS

# How '84 was programmed

LADES and gentlemen, THE DAILY TELEGRAPH Personal Computer Awards for 1984.

Nominations for the Most Successful Micro Product of the year are now being accepted. Apple for its Macintosh personal computer, imaginatively named after the chairman's favourite item of apparel. Telcom, whose electronic mail service proved so popular with hackers during the year. Prestel City-Serve for its dial-up stock prices and Digital Research for its Concurrent DOS operating system.

But the winner is IBM for its model XT Personal Computer. A big night for "Big Blue," whose basic model PC, also carried off the Dead Horse trophy for Best Obsolete Product.

There was heavy competition for this year's Best Wish Award. Among the principal contenders: Texas Instruments for contriving to lose \$100 million on home computer sales; IBM again, this time for its launch of the P.C. junior, another home computer notable for its unpopularity with the micro-buying public; VisiCorp and Software Arts for suing each other almost into insolvency; and several dozen IBM clone makers for going bust during a boom. The out-

right winner is, however, Japan Inc. for the perpetration of MSX, a new "standard" for home computers. As one of our distinguished panel of judges so aptly put it: "A new standard? Aaargh!"

But not all the news was bad in 1984. Obituaries proved premature in several cases. Nominations for the Phoenix Prize for Life After Death included American microcomputer manufacturers Osborne and Victor, both of whom survived partitioning avionic systems, and the clear winner in this category is Atari, following wallet-to-wallet resuscitation, ousted Commodore commandant Jack Tramiel, and Richard Pawsen's forthcoming "The Robot Book," already set to be a best seller from trade orders alone.

Now the special prizes for outstanding contributions to British entertainment. First the Sir Clive Sinclair Citation for Outstanding Product Delay. Despite gallant efforts by Acorn and Commodore the judges felt that nothing could match Gavriel's achievement in going out of business before delivering any product here. The prize for Best Non-Product was awarded to electronic diary programs in general, and to A.C.T. in particular, for packaging not one, but two such in with its Apriotic personal computer.

To conclude, two special prizes: first the Greville Award for Most Insubstantial Games programme, won outright this year by Severn Software, publishers of "Mean War," finally a special consolation prize to the Duke of Edinburgh, winner of the Striped Jersey award for the Most Buried Electronic Mafioso.

JULIAN ALLASON

## ART GALLERIES

BARRACLOUGH ART GALLERY, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

# Simpson

01-734 2002 PICCADILLY

**SALE STARTS THURS.**  
**27th DECEMBER**  
**9.00am-7.00pm**

MEN	
DAKS business suits	£145-£129
DAKS single breasted blazers	£145-£95
DAKS trenchcoats	£145-£99
DAKS jackets	£129-£99
DAKS trousers	£55-£45
DAKS topcoats	£149-£135
Church's shoes	£89-£55
Cashmere pullovers	£89-£55
Cotton business shirts	£32-£21
Cotton pyjamas	£33-£19.50
Ceruti suits	£280-£225
Silk dressing gowns	£125-£89
Lorin ties	£22-£10.50
WOMEN	
DAKS wool check skirts - HALF PRICE	£65-£32.50
DAKS wool suits - HALF PRICE	£290-£99
Vicosa dresses - HALF PRICE	£185-£89
Feminella suits - HALF PRICE	£125-£59
DAKS fairisle slipovers	£35-£21
Cashmere sweaters	£65-£35
Cashmere double-breasted coats	£295-£269
Scapa cotton blouses	£29-£19
Laurel wool skirts	£29-£39
Lambwool cowl neck sweaters	£37-£25
DAKS leather shoes	£65-£45

## SALE

OPEN DAILY 9.00AM-5.30PM THURSDAYS UNTIL 7PM

**Paddy Campbell SALE**  
**STARTS THURSDAY 27th DECEMBER**  
**AT 8 GEE'S COURT,**  
**ST CHRISTOPHER'S PLACE, LONDON W1**  
**01-493 5646**

(ENTRANCE OPPOSITE BOND STREET TUBE STATION)  
 6-17, BEAUCHAMP PLACE, LONDON SW3. 01-225 0543

**CHRISTMAS** turkeys will be hardly eaten before the stores tear down the decorations and turn their windows over to the traditional January sales, most of which start this Thursday, December 27.

Not so long ago, retailers used to throw up their hands in despair if their winter coats hadn't disappeared from the rails by the Lord Mayor's Show in November. In recent years, warm autumns, coupled with a trend to layered fashion (everything from big shawls to thermal underwear), mean that a winter coat is no longer the necessity it once was.

By January, however, when there's snow and frost around, there is nothing to beat a good thick overcoat and this year's crop is a vintage one, especially at well-reduced sale prices like these - some are literally halved.

Look for tweeds - particularly those in brown/oatmeal tones, for brown, tipped, as this winter's top colour, is likely to take off in an even bigger way next winter. Liberty has Jimmy Hourihan's brown and multi-colour flecked Donegal tweed coat with a velvet collar reduced from £143 to £71.50.

Or splash out on fashionable winter white - an extravagance at full price, perhaps, but the sort of luxury that sale prices make more realistic. Look for a good roomy size - this year's oversized, mannish look is a classic and means that you can wear it over thick sweaters and suits, too.

Kicking off on Thursday are most of the Regent Street and Oxford Street shops like Aquascutum, Debenhams, Dickins and Jones, Liberty and Fenwick, plus Country Casuals and Jaeger branches.

Following in the next week are the big Knightsbridge sales with Harrods on January 4 and Harvey Nichols on January 5.



## Warming to a good sales buy



● Top: luxurious winter white coat with roomy shape and low-slung back belt, also in brown and black, reduced from £160 to £106. White cable-knit sweater with collar reduced from £65 to £43, also in black, red or navy, sizes 10 to 14. Both by Nicole Farhi from Harvey Nichols' sale starting January 5.

● Top, right: classic cut in brown Donegal tweed with multi-colour flecks and a black velvet collar, also in black-and-white herringbone tweed, down from £143 to £71.50, in sizes 8 to 16. Red jersey blouse down from £48 to £24; both in Liberty's sale starting on Thursday.

● Right: big, mannish overcoat by Stephen Marks in oatmeal tweed, also in grey, sizes 10 to 14, reduced from £175 to £99. Cream cable-knit French Connection sweater beneath, also in red or beige, reduced from £37 to £25. Both in Fenwick's sale starting on Thursday.

● Left: seven-eighths coat, cut on stick straight lines, in blanket grey wool in small, medium and large sizes, and is reduced to £54 from £109. Plaid skirt beneath in sizes 8 to 16, is down from £69 to £49. Both from Alexon, Conduit Street, London W1 and branches, whose sale starts on Thursday. White angora sweater reduced from £19.95 to £12 in Fenwick's sale.

Hats from a selection in Fenwick's sale.

Pictures by  
KENNETH MASON



# COUNTRY CASUALS HALF PRICE SALE

**STARTS DECEMBER 27th**  
**Colour Co-ordinated Separates.**  
**At Half Price, - for example:**

Knitwear	£19.50	now £8.95
Blouses	£21.50	now £9.95
Skirts	£39.00	now £19.00
Dresses	£59.00	now £29.00
Jackets	£65.00	now £32.00

**At your local Country Casuals Shop**  
**See local Newspapers for Shop-in-Shop Sale Dates**

OPEN Sun 22-24, 27, 28, 29 & 31 DEC; 1 JAN etc.

### FUR SALE

*K West furs*

SUPERB SILVER FOX JACKET £5995	£1100
ELEGANT BLACK/WHITE MINK COAT £2995	£4500
STUNNING FLOOR LENGTH WHITE MINK COAT TRIMMED WITH FOX SKIN £2995	£2000
LUXURIOUS LYNX COAT £795	£4300
STUNNING SILVER FOX COAT £2995	£2000
MANY MORE REVOLUTIONARY FUR WARDROBES FROM	£39
WINK HATS FROM	£35

HUGE SELECTION OF OVER 400 FINE FUR COATS AND JACKETS

**K WEST FURS**  
 21 Hudson Street  
 (Corner of 133 Regent Street)  
 London W1  
 Tel: 01-734 0777

### SALE

Now On At  
**Jacob Gordon Ltd**  
 Established 1927

London's  
 Leading House  
 For  
 Couture Fabrics

**75 Duke Street, London, W.1.**  
**01-629 5947/8.**  
 1 min. Bond St. Tube.

### A CONSUMER'S GUIDE TO AIR TRAVEL

by Frank Barrett

Available through leading bookshops, the Telegraph Bookshop at 150 Fleet St., price £5.95, or by post from Pearl GAT, Daily Telegraph, 185 Fleet St., London EC4 (plus 55p p&pp).

### FASHION NOTEBOOK

FANS of Bill Gibb can breathe a big sigh of relief - his clothes will be back in force very soon, relaunched with a big fashion show during the next London Fashion Week in March.

Not that Bill has ever been away for, as well as our exclusive Daily Telegraph patterns, he has been running a small but highly successful couture business for private clients over the past four years, as well as supplying Harrods.

Now, a strong consortium of private investors has formed a company called Glenciel Ltd., to give Bill the backing he so justly deserves. We will again be able to buy those wonderful wool knits (plus coordinating tweeds), high fashion ready-to-wear and couture evening clothes.

A new American business partner, Mary Toman, is the whizz kid who has gathered the city people together.

Bill himself is very excited about the new venture. "While I am proud of the individual designs I have been creating, I have felt frustrated by not being able to let a design grow," he said. "For the past few years I've always had to stop the creative flow after each design and start all over again."

A.C.

## Burberry Bargains

**The Burberry Sale**  
**STARTS 9 a.m. THURSDAY 27th DECEMBER**  
**At 18-22 Haymarket,**  
**165 Regent Street, London**  
**and 64 Buchanan Street, Glasgow**  
**Open till 7 p.m.**

Some examples of Burberry Bargains:

For Men	Our Current Price when perfect	Special Price
Classic style Weatherproof Trench style Weatherproof	£150.00	£110.00
Mens Shirts	£215.00	£160.00
Sports Jackets	£227.50	£17.50
Silk Ties	£125.00	£79.50
	£13.50	£6.50
For Women		
Classic style Weatherproof Trench style Weatherproof	£150.00	£110.00
Ladies Jackets	£205.00	£155.00
Burberry Check Skirts (various styles)	£125.00	£89.50
Blouson Jackets	£82.50	£52.50
	£110.00	£65.00

25% Reduction on all Men's and Ladies Top Coats

Generous reductions in all departments including Burberry Check accessories and shoes from Church at Barberrys.

\*Some of our merchandise offered at a special price may be imperfect.

Our definition of imperfect relates solely to slight surface faults or staining.

Our free personal programming service is not available on Sale merchandise.

PERSONAL SHOPPERS ONLY ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED.

## Burberrys

18-22 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4DP. Telephone 01-930 3343  
 165 Regent Street, London W1R 6AS. Telephone 01-734 4050  
 64 Buchanan Street, Glasgow G1 3JE. Telephone 041-221 6222

**GLAMOUR** dressing for Christmas and other winter parties is easiest to come by with something black and bare but that creates practical problems, unless you can guarantee spending all your festive time amid central heating of holhouse proportions.

A more covered-up, cosy Christmas look sounds as if it might lose out on the glamour content but, this year, the shops are awash with glitter, soft cashmere and multi-layered silk satin which look wonderfully luxurious as well as keeping you warm.

The glitter comes primarily from jewellery: this year's baubles are some of the biggest, brightest and most obviously fake ever. Use plain crystal or diamanté to bring life and contrast to your party dress: a safe, plain black; and an extra crystal colour such as fiery red if you are more daring. The bright, multi-coloured crystal mixes look wonderful teamed with the mixed prints of brocade and Paisley silk that the young love for evening this winter, often in the form of man-styled pyjamas.

Fenwick has a beautiful, sophisticated version in soft Paisley silk with snug quilted shawl collar and cuffs on the smoking jacket, to team with a plain royal blue camisole — expensive at £195, but a good investment. The store also has inexpensive glass jewellery in a vivid, royal blue to match.

But the glitter comes on clothes, too, most originally as great chunks of crystal, appliqued with sequins and ribbons on to big, plain sweatshirts — great, worn with stirruped ski pants if you want to look casual yet glamorous at the same time.

There are also sweater dresses and jumpers with plenty of Lurex glints, often in subtle shades like bronze and teamed with angora yarn for a subtler, more sophisticated look than the evening knits of recent years. The knit style goes further for parties this year: that old classic cashmere is a hot favourite, cut loose and simple and in the most innocent cream or pastel. But team it quite unconventionally with a flounced taffeta or even lace and taffeta skirt and really big crystal or pearl jewellery.

Notwithstanding these ideas, classic black will still be many people's choice. Velvet, often trimmed with satin, is the season's top fabric.



● Left: scarlet sweatshirt appliqued with crystal clusters and black satin ribbon sprinkled with sequins by Syria, £65 from SIS department, Simpson, London SW1. red jersey ski-pants by French Connection, £12-95 from Fenwick, London W1. black, red and white diamanté snake jewellery from a selection at Butler and Wilson, Fulham Road, London SW5.

● Below: palest shell pink cashmere sweater, from a selection at N. Paul, Burlington Arcade, London W1, from £85. black face over white taffeta full skirt by Monix, £26-99 from Alders and Wallis branches. pinky baroque pearls by Pellini, £45 from Harrods, London SW1 and Liberty, London W1. pearl earrings from Fenwick, £3-95.

## Glamour without the goose-pimples



Pictures by ANTHONY MARSHALL

### Eric Hill

**WINTER SALE STARTS 2nd JAN.**  
Send 15p stamp for brochure of over 50 ladies' quality fashions from £14.95. Sizes 12-26 in Wool, Cotton, and others at very, very reasonable prices.  
Also New Spring colour catalogue will be sent FREE when available.  
Personal Shoppers Welcome only after 2nd January.  
1112 Eric Hill Lane, Suite 200, Broomfield, Guildford, Surrey GU10 0HG.

**London's Most Fabulous Fur Sale**  
Starts December 27th

For a limited period the Zhivago range of top quality furs are being sold at incredibly low prices.

Mink coats from £1,650  
Mink jackets reduced from £890 to £595  
Blue Fox coats reduced from £900 to £595  
Fox jackets reduced from £995 to £495  
Coyote jackets reduced from £950 to £495  
Any Mink garments will be taken in part exchange.

You'll find Zhivago at 2 Portman Square, W1, just north of the junction of Wigmore Street and Baker Street, walking distance from Bond St, Baker St, and Marble Arch tubes.

Zhivago will be open all day New Year's day.

**ZHIVAGO**  
2 Portman Square, London W1M 9PS Tel: 01-335 5093



### ON THE ROCKS

**MOST** original Christmas presents to date: the deodorant that you can keep in with your bathroom shelf collection. In fact it doesn't look like a deodorant at all but just like the lump of natural crystalline alunitic rock that it actually is.

You simply wet it in hot water and use it just like any other deodorant. Already a huge success on the Continent, Alun rock crystal has no perfume or other additives and is hypo-allergenic too.

Available at major department stores at £7.99.

A.C.

**TULLEYS OF CHELSEA**

**SALE DEC 27 TO FEB 2**

\* Hundreds of Upholstery bargains \* Reproduction Furniture too  
Brochure and Sale Leaflet from TULLEYS OF CHELSEA  
Dept SS, 238-237 Fulham Rd, London SW10. Tel: 01-352 1078  
Also at Guildford Tel: 64643; Salisbury Tel: 23890; Plymouth Tel: 67229; Bristol Tel: 73476

## FENWICK SALE THURSDAY

- Bold-Check Shirts** in pure cotton. Were £14.95 **£7**
- Jeffrey Rogers Sweaters and Dresses** in jacquard knit. Were £19.95, £15.95 **£9**
- Emanuelle Co-ordinates** e.g. Pleat-front trousers were £24.95 **£15**
- Lambwool/Angora Sweaters** crew and cowl neck. Were £19.95, £18.95 **£12**
- French Connection Separates** e.g. Silk/Angora sweaters were £34 **£19**
- Lauré Collection** e.g. Pleated skirts were £115 **Now £57 half price**
- In-Wear cord or canvas trousers.** Were £39.95, £31.95 **£19**
- Italian Bags** in fine leather. Were £32, £29.95 **£19**
- Wolford Tights** Slightly imperfect. Normally £1.99 Five for **£4.50**
- Fine Jewellery** e.g. Dior 18 carat gold plate earrings. Were £65. Now **£32.50 half price**
- Silk Satin Bras and Briefs** Were £8.95 each. Each **£5.95**
- Pure Silk Jacquard Dresses** Were £59 **£35**
- Dresses by Pink and Ravens** Were £90 **£59**
- Stephen Marks College Coats** Were £115 **£99**
- Jaeger fine wool long sweaters.** Were £31 **£15**
- Herringbone Jackets** three-quarter length. Were £35 & £33 **£19**
- Absorba Children's Wear.** e.g. Quilted tracksuits were £20.95 **£17.95**
- Carvela and Bally Shoe Sale** e.g. Carvela leather courts **half price**
- Mondi Autumn Collection** e.g. Herringbone wool skirts were £65 **£39**
- Coordinating sweaters** were £75 **£39**
- Mans Shop Sale**
- Men's Shirts** by Don Van Heusen. Were £24.50, £15.95 **£17.50 & £9.95**
- Sabre Crew and V Sweaters** in plain Lambwool. Were £22.95 **£14.95**
- THURSDAY 9.30-7.30 ALL OTHER DAYS 9.30-6**

**Fenwick**  
OF BOND STREET

Fenwick Limited, New Bond Street, London W1

**LONDON'S FINEST SELECTION OF LUXURY BEDS - ALL REDUCED IN OUR WINTER SALE - OPENS THURSDAY**

**BED BARGAINS - BED BARGAINS**  
The best of quality, pocketed mattresses on sprung-edge divans. For superior comfort and back support, that last and last.

Model	Price	Now
6' 6" REYON CARLTON	£2,000	<b>£1,595</b>
6' 6" STAPLES DIPLOMAT	£2,028	<b>£1,521</b>
6' 6" SLEEPPEEZEE EXECUTIVE	£1,410	<b>£1,207</b>
6' 6" STAPLES CONSUL	£1,350	<b>£1,113</b>
5' 6" VI-SPRING VISCONTRESS	£800	<b>£649</b>
5' 6" SLEEPPEEZEE EATON	£800	<b>£650</b>
5' 6" SLEEPPEEZEE EXECUTIVE	£800	<b>£649</b>
5' 6" VI-SPRING VITALITY	£570	<b>£482</b>
5' 6" SLEEPPEEZEE EXECUTIVE pair zipped and linked together	£1,054	<b>£790</b>

**SPECIAL OFFERS**

Model	Price	Now
SLEEPPEEZEE CADOGAN Double bed size	£878	<b>£699</b>
REYON MANHATTAN Double bed size	£812	<b>£649</b>
SLEEPPEEZEE CUDDLER Single bed size	£626	<b>£499</b>

**BARGAINS AT HALF PRICE**

Model	Price	Now
BED OF WARE FOUR POSTER Kite size Complete with Diplomat Base and Mattress	£1,500	<b>£750</b>
PRECA ELECTRICAL OPERATED ADJUSTABLE BED 3" x 6"	£2,567	<b>£1,283</b>
CADOGAN HYDRA BED Single size	£720	<b>£360</b>

Showroom models, slightly shop-soiled, at Stone Street.

**GOOD NEWS FOR SLEEPERS**  
This sale includes the best bed and mattress bargains in London. Free delivery on orders over £100. From 11am to 10pm, 24 hours a day in England and Wales. Mattress open 6 days a week. Multiple purchase discounts. 20 days return policy at 20% off purchase price.

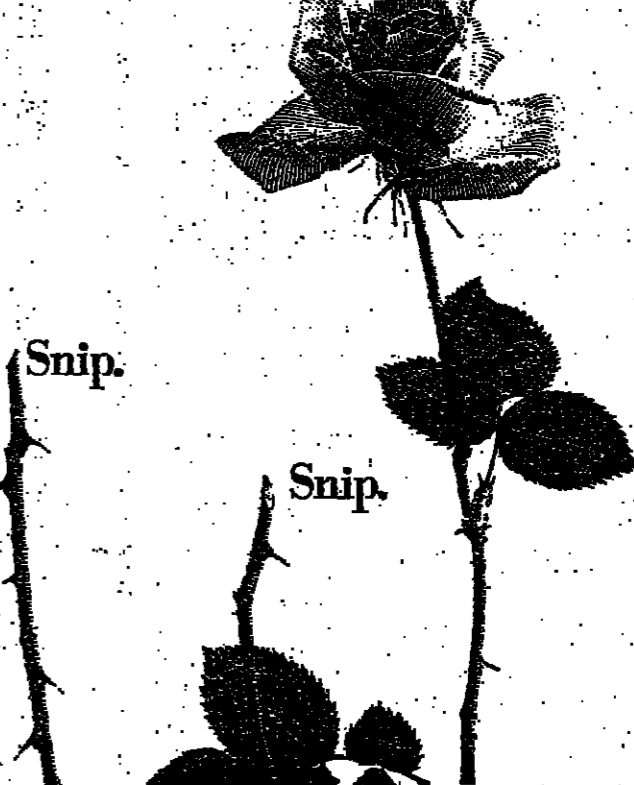
**London Bedding Centre**  
21-27 Stone Street, London SW1A 9SE Tel: 01-235 5511  
Local Broomfield, The Square Broomfield, Tel: 01-235 5511

### SUNDAY TELEGRAPH Good Wine Guide 85

By John Marshall and Tom Stevenson  
Over 900 recommended wines under £5 and where to buy them  
Available through leading bookshops and the Telegraph Bookshop at 130, Fleet Street, price £2.95, or by post from Dept. GWT, Daily Telegraph, 130, Fleet Street, London, EC1 (Please add 50p postage and packing).

## Dickins & Jones Winter Sale. Starts Thursday Dec. 27th.

RECENT STREET - RICHMOND - MILTON KEYNES



MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1984

135, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.4.

TEL: 01-353 4242. TELEX: 22874/5/6.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS: 01-583 3939.

## REVEALED UNTO BABES

"IF NECESSARY," said Mr SCARGILL last summer, "we will stay out until Christmas." It seemed, at the time, a sample of typical Scargillian rodomontade. Surely, everyone said, moderates within the union would seize control and impose a settlement long before then; or, alternatively, surely no government could hold out against the miners' resolve. Either way, the strike could not last. All such predictions have long since foundered on the twin rocks constituted by Mrs THATCHER, in her celebrated role as immovable object, and Mr SCARGILL (though somewhat less convincingly) as irresistible force. The miners, though weaker now, have not collapsed; and the Prime Minister is further than ever from defeat.

Meanwhile the bitterness has grown. Extraordinary violence has been seen on the picket lines. Miners have been brutally attacked, and their families intimidated. And now, Christmas is here. It will be a bleak one for the striking miners and their families, a fact in which no one should rejoice. It would surely require an unusually Scrooge-like disposition to begrudge miners' children the gifts wellwishers have collected for them: we may be convinced that their fathers have no one but themselves to blame for continuing to support a bigoted and politically motivated leadership; nevertheless it is not the striking miners, but those who have misled them, who are "the enemy within." However unpopular the strike, however deeply against the national interest, the strikers remain within the national family.

The backdrop of Christmas has a way of rendering starkly and unsentimentally clear the extent of the political and moral disorders which are seen against it. That the miners' strike should be taking place as Christians celebrate the birth of Almighty God as a tiny child, does not merely provide a certain pathos as we think of the miners' children who will have fewer toys this year. It renders doubly tragic the violence and the self-will which have flowed out of the strike itself.

More tragic yet, beyond all comparison more tragic, is the Ethiopian famine. "Don't they know it's Christmas?" asks the pop group whose record, "Feed the World," is in aid of the Ethiopian victims, has soared to the top of the charts. But here, too, as in the miners' strike, we have to do more than simply unlock seasonal good will if we are to penetrate the deep causes of the problem. As our generosity is tapped, we should not forget the bombing sorties carried out (at ruinous expense) against the Eritrean rebel, or the Ethiopian government's own responsibility as a prime cause of the famine itself. We must not accept the implication that Third-World starvation is necessarily the result of Western greed and selfishness (and this is not to say that we ever have reason for complacency in such matters). But, however we apportion responsibility for these and the countless other tragedies which daily unfold on this tortured planet one fact, surely, stands out clearly: that there really does seem to be something very badly wrong with the human race, which cannot simply be explained away by talking about psychological neurosis or political and economic oppression.

We are deeply flawed beings who can only begin to learn to live with our imperfect nature by being aware of the fact. This, as well as the more widely acceptable "Peace on Earth," is the message of Christmas. The Christ Child, in his humility and vulnerability, accuses and convicts human violence and self-will: there can be no peace on earth without penitence first. The Christian analysis, in the end, is the true one: the root cause of the world's human evils (small and great) is human sinfulness.

And it is to free us from that sinfulness within ourselves, Christians believe, that God was born: Man in Bethlehem. We are liberated, not in the first place from political structures or oppression, but from sin and death. And we are born, not to achieve perfect happiness here on earth, but eternal life with God in the world to come. It is a belief which is sometimes difficult for the modern world, still in the grip of the fast disintegrating Victorian myth of endless human mastery and progress, to comprehend. But through the centuries it has given men and women courage and vision; and it is the root of all authentic Christian teaching. It is that deep truth of which the Christian Church is the guardian.

What, then, are we to make of the present exercise of that guardianship by so many of those to whom it is entrusted? It is not too much to say that there has not been within living memory such great dissatisfaction among ordinary Anglicans with the appointed defenders of their faith as now exists. Most obviously of all, they seem to talk too much about politics without any particular Christian basis for their analyses and to believe too little of what has always been supposed to be the Christian revelation.

This dissatisfaction has been, during the past year, effectively focused on the person of the Rt Rev. DAVID JENKINS. There were 14,000 signatures on a petition to the Archbishop of York against his consecration as Bishop of Durham; it was an extraordinary phenomenon, dismissed in an equally extraordinary way by the Archbishop with the words, "Some people are so glibly they will sign anything." It is, perhaps, above all the blinkered elitism revealed by these words which is the real source of the remoteness from reality of many of the present bench of bishops. Most of them have never run a parish. For all their fine talk about "communication," they simply do not understand how to talk to ordinary people and Bishop JENKINS himself appears almost to despise them; he is prepared endlessly and tortuously to lecture, but never, apparently, to listen and to learn.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, by contrast, has shown a great willingness to learn and to respond to disquiet within the Church. His Christmas message contains the following admirable and lucid reply to Bishop JENKINS's pretensions: "When all is said and done, at the heart of our faith there lies the mystery which is just as accessible to the simple as to the sophisticated." But there is more. In the words of Jesus Himself: "I thank thee, O Father, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and revealed them unto babes." In the end, the only way for Christian faith is simply to kneel before the Christ Child, with the words spoken by Thomas the doubter to the risen Christ on our lips: "My Lord and my God."

## COMMENTARY

T. E. Utley

AT CHRISTMAS, one writes either about God or ghosts. When I was a young man, I used to work for THE TIMES (another newspaper published in London). It was part of my duty to write the annual Christmas leader.

Now THE TIMES, whatever it may have been at various points in its history, was not at this time, in the ecclesiastical sense, an establishment newspaper. Its Christmas leader, as I remember it, used in those days to be a carefully drafted diplomatic convention, which had to be widely examined before publication and approved by the representatives of various denominations on the staff.

There was Mr Iverach McDonald, a stout Presbyterian. Mr Stanley Morrison, a rather extreme Papist, and even (though he may not have been taken into direct consultation), Mr Kent (the "Manager"), a Plymouth Brother.

This is not to mention my greatest friend at that stage of my career—Hornor, the Editor's driver. He could drive from the gates of Printing House Square to those of All Souls in 45 minutes flat, not only preserving himself and his passengers intact but also preventing several other accidents which might have occurred through unimproved careless driving. He once confided to me, on this question of the Christmas leader, that "the trouble with this office, Sir, is too much chapel."

What I remember most about the exercise, however, is how I used to receive from a sort of inverted religious maniac—a reborn atheist, resident (I would judge from his extraordinary literacy) in some expensive lunatic asylum in the south east counties. Once, I recall, his letter began with these words: "Sir, I see you have used Christmas once again as a pretext for mentioning Jesus Christ."

Still conscious of this admonition, I shall write about ghosts, and particularly about the disquieting inequalities which this professedly civilised and humane society still tolerates in respect of the distribution of opportunities for post-humous apparition and intervention in our affairs.

Let me make my position clear: I regard the opportunity for such appearances and interventions as a privilege rather than a punishment. I do not take Hamlet's view. For example, I regard it as possible though barely conceivable, that when I have been long below the sod, this newspaper will develop policies on subjects dear to my heart which I cannot approve. In those circumstances, I should like to be free to make some judicious intrusion—an apparition before the Editor at some critical moment; if that fails, a little mischief on the stone (for which there must be precedents), and failing that, some poltergeist activity in the local hostelry.

This matter of the gross inequality which now disfigures our society's arrangements in relation to supernatural phenomena was first brought to my attention by a gentleman who, some years ago, mounted a campaign in favour of more working class ghosts, observing correctly, that, in this class-ridden community of ours, ghosts are drawn almost exclusively from the ranks of the rich and privileged.

But, to my mind, there is an even more damaging injustice: it is the almost total absence from our affairs (at least so far as I can judge, on the basis of extremely inadequate research) of political ghosts.

Not even Spencer Perceval (a Prime Minister murdered in the lobby of the House of Commons) haunts the place. Some fine watchers during the war did hear a strange noise in Westminster Hall, but it was proved to have been produced by a pigeon in the rafters. A good story about Churchill, shortly after his appointment as Prime Minister in 1940, having received valuable counsel from his long-lamented father, is sharply dismissed by Dr Martin Gilbert.

Yet politicians, who are so apt to rise from their purely political graves to give romanticised versions of what Britain was like in their day, must surely pine for posthumous activity, particularly as their names are so often taken in vain by their successors. There is a case for a right of reply.

Ghosts are, by nature, diffident. All they need is a little judicious encouragement from a quango with a small subsidy, which could be prudently supplied by cutting the money now spent on discouraging sexual and racial discrimination. Years ago, I had the distinct impression that Edmund Burke's statue outside Trinity, Dublin, extended a hand to me in a warm embrace; but my 10-year-old daughter who accompanied me failed to corroborate: indeed, described my account of the matter as "a frig lid."

Not that I have not seen a ghost in the most incontrovertible circumstances. I did so many years ago and shortly afterwards went blind; but, "these are matters of which I shall not speak on this side of the grave" or, at any rate, until this column is faced by an even thinner day than today.

The Irish Information Partnership has written to offer me a regular supply of highly accurate and thorough information about all aspects of Irish affairs. My confidence in its offer would have been even greater than it is had it not been addressed to "Mr Charles Utley, Editor of THE DAILY TELEGRAPH."

## Christmas quiz



The top rank are all winners in 1984, the bottom row all losers. Why do the faces fit into these categories and who are they?

## Who, what, which, where, why, how?

- (1) Who was "imprisoned, drugged and tortured" by the British security services—but acquired a sultan in the process?
- (2) What caused a woefully diplomatic incident in the suburbs?
- (3) Why was 300 tons of whisky a sobering thought?
- (4) What damage did Jupiter do on a visit to London?
- (5) Which modern-day Job missed out on the bolts but took out full-page ads for help?
- (6) Who got re-elected then lost a seat?
- (7) How did a green dog have his collar felt?
- (8) All ex-Cabinet Ministers wind up in a box; which one did prematurely?
- (9) Whose unguarded secret led to six months away from it all—and three offers of marriage?
- (10) Strikes and violence seem to have gone together this year in Britain, but where did threats end a strike?
- (11) Who linked herself with a prince in print?
- (12) Who linked himself with a princess in fun?
- (13) There was this story about the politician, the seed merchant and the gamekeeper and the report was head throughout the country: who was the politician?
- (14) Who never went to one, but got a close relative into difficulty by setting one built?
- (15) What made 1984 (a) a bad year for mermaids, (b) a good year for mermaids?

## Quotes: Who said this year...?

- (1) This was the day I was not meant to see.
- (2) The question is not should we break the law but which law should we obey?
- (3) The Archbishop of Canterbury is a religious man.
- (4) I won't be photographed with that over-made-up tart.
- (5) What is proposed is a monstrous carbuncle on the face of a much-loved and elegant friend.
- (6) The history of mankind is littered with debris of men who have acted more stupidly than any one would have thought possible at the time.
- (7) I am very sorry you got painted.
- (8) I wouldn't put it past God to

## Libyan hostages: the Queen remembers

THE QUEEN'S thoughts and prayers this Christmas will, I am sure, be going in particular to four of her subjects held as political hostages in Libya by Col. Gaddafi.

After Prince Harry's christening at Windsor on Friday, the Queen had a long conversation with Dr Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury, in which she closely questioned him on the progress of the mission to free them, headed by Terry Waite, his special envoy.

The Queen made clear to the Archbishop the depth of her concern about their fate. She also displayed detailed knowledge of the attempts to get them released.

Sadly, Waite's appeal to Gaddafi to let them go before Christmas has fallen on deaf ears. But Royal thoughts will be with them on Christmas Day.

Jet set

PRESIDENT REAGAN can look forward to the most expensive Christmas present in the world—a \$100 million Boeing 747 jumbo jet which is being prepared at Andrews Airforce base, California, as the new Airforce One.

News of the latest presidential aircraft was held up until after the American elections for fear of arousing public anger at its cost. But the 15-year-old Boeing 707 which the President has used as his personal jet is now, apparently, "too old and noisy" to be up to the job.

It was told that the basic \$100 million price tag only covers the extras—chiefly communications equipment—now being added could double the cost.

I hear of a seemingly foolproof method of avoiding the Saudi Arabian censor who sometimes mangles THE DAILY TELEGRAPH. A reader has hit upon the play of taking out a subscription. As an experienced oil industry worker, he finds that airmail copies "have always sailed through without the slightest alteration."

## Early opening

MRS THATCHER proved too impatient to wait for Christmas before opening the present President Reagan gave her at Camp David.

Inside the gold package, which she opened as her VC-10 crossed the Atlantic towards the end of her 25,000-mile round-the-world trip, was an exquisite, tiny, gold ornamental fruit bowl.

## Quartets and pints

EVEN DURING Britain's darkest and most hard-pressed times, the need for a little Christmas cheer has always shone through.

A reader reminds me that at

arrange a Virgin Birth if he wanted.

But I don't think he did. (9) I am not going to put myself in the position of saying where and when there has been divine intervention.

(10) I am not one of your local characters. I don't vote here—I vote in Florida.

(11) Capitalism still possesses quite substantial and far from exhausted reserves.

(12) The saddest thing in my life was when I discovered that people can get their freedom from colonial masters and find themselves unfree.

(13) I would feel desperate if I had been without a good regular income for 20 weeks.

(14) I have never to my knowledge sold a piece of scrubbed pine furniture.

(15) The Press should take a lesson from the under-10s—it might learn something.

(16) I'm just a girl who runs.

(17) Throughout the dispute the attitude you have displayed has been diabolical.

(18) There is no such phenomenon as a slight case of totalitarianism.

## They took their last bow in 1984

The past year took a heavy toll of entertainers of one kind or another. Of those who died, who I put to go, I hope I go when I'm getting up from my armchair to turn off the TV when Bernard Manning's on.

(1) said: "That's not the way I'd want to go. I hope I go when I'm getting up from my armchair to turn off the TV when Bernard Manning's on."

(2) was born Miss Fluck?

(3) said: "I tried to think myself into people's drawing rooms rather than addressing the nation."

(4) though known for his menacing performances, was a conscientious objector during the 1939-45 war.

(5) had singing partner called Tammi Terrell, who collapsed in his arms.

(6) was a reach-me-down aristocrat and invented jump swing?

(7) had his writings described by one writer in the 1950s as exhibiting "barbarous taste at its most corrupt."

(8) made an English journey 50 years ago?

(9) said: "On my tombstone they will write, 'She was a plain woman'."

(10) had received star recognition after playing a gangster chief with Hillier similarities.

(11) left school at 16 in help support the family and became an apprentice at a Welsh Co-op?

(12) borrowed his future trademark from a passing Cairo waiter after

someone had stolen his pith helmet?

(13) played the scientist in "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" but is better known for different skills?

## Excerpts from the sporting life

(1) Who said and on what occasion: "Broadly I favour the Gaudi factor. Long after you've forgotten the price you remember the quality..."

(2) Why did Peter Hobson live to regret giving his hobby as "scuba diving and re-shaping barges"?

(3) Who had fought the law and his coaches but fought a mountain and won?

(4) Which truant from a troubled side came close to kicking in his career for his wife's sake?

(5) Which world title won again by a British woman this year has, surprisingly, never been won by the Japanese?

(6) Who muscled in to join the big boys at Wimbledon?

(7) Which adventures with a lad and a lighthouse struck a blow for women?

(8) Which leading pair was separated by a hole with a road in it?

(9) This comment could have been made of almost any victory, but of which one was it said: "I put it down to the fact that they are an extremely talented, very strong team and fine exponents of their profession. These games have been fought in a marvellous spirit?"

(10) Who made the maximum break of 147?

## And finally a look back

How many years ago did the following take place:

(1) The extension of the electoral franchise to agricultural labourers. (a) 150 years, (b) 100 years, (c) 64 years.

(2) The Gresford colliery disaster. (a) 40 years, (b) 60 years, (c) 50 years.

(3) Government control over the East India company's rule in India. (a) 500 years, (b) 150 years, (c) 200 years.

(4) Publication of the first Christmas card. (a) 150 years, (b) 140 years, (c) 130 years.

## Answers—p20

## LONDON DAY BY DAY

Christmas 40 years ago—the 27th week of the war—this column carried a recipe for Charles Dickens's favourite punch which I repeat:

8 sweet oranges, Nutmeg to cover a shilling, 1 bottle of whisky, 1 pint of sherry, 1 quarter of brandy, 1 pint of China tea, 1 pint of lemon, 1 loaf sugar.

That Christmas of shortages and few luxuries had barely run its course before a correspondent wrote in asking what a quorum was. He was told that the measure was no more than a quarter of a pint. Should we now expect letters from younger readers asking what a shilling is?

## Christmas meeting

MRS THATCHER's customary Christmas gathering of friends and notables at Chequers has an added poignancy this year. Both Norman Tebbit, who is based there to be close to his wife Margaret at Stoke Mandeville, and Jimmy Savile, the hospital's chief fund-raiser, will be present.

Formal thanks for the work of the hospital in treating the Tebbits in the wake of the Brighton bombing have already been said. And all the parties are surely too polite to point out that the Savile £10 million fund was set up because not enough Government funding could be found to modernise Stoke Mandeville.

## Explosive plot

THURSDAY NIGHT's audience for the RSC's performance of "Peter Pan" at the Barbican watched spellbound as a lighted gunpowder keg set to blow up the pirate ship, toppled slowly from its perch, rolled down the raked stage, and into the laps of the front row.

Captain Hook, played by Stephen Moore, stepped forward, asked politely: "Can we have our bomb back?"—and the prop was returned with some alacrity.

## Frayed comment

BBC RADIO'S "Today" programme appears to be arousing high passions with its annual "Man of the Year" poll this Christmas as one of its listeners from Harrow found when he submitted a postcard entry for "Silver Birch" (Chris Butcher) the Nottinghamshire-based organiser of working miners.

His card was returned to him a few days later by the Post Office, torn in half. The organisers of the poll, who have already uncovered two attempts to rig the vote with multiple returns, are drawing their own conclusions about the failure of the delivery.

## Not-so-still life

YOUNG'S BREWERY in Wandsworth has set up a most unusual

"It's not a deterrent—it's a guidance system."

Nativity crib at its headquarters, using live animals to surround the familiar human models.

The scene was set up after the brewery took charge of two donkeys left at one of the company's farms in Clapham by some bunnies. Young's mascot, a ram, which lives at the brewery, a goat and a couple more rams completed the picture and now browse around a crib in a shed at the brewery entrance.

The company actually had more trouble rounding up the human models than the animals. Mary and Joseph are made from window models donated by a South London department store. The two unclad life-size figures were finally taken round to Wandsworth by one of Young's employees on the Clapham bus.

## Sign design

NOEL CARRINGTON, younger brother of the Bloomsbury Group artist Dora Carrington—she organised the first exhibition of her work—celebrates his 80th birthday today.

His own achievements, particularly in the fields of publishing and design, have been considerable. He helped found the Puffin series of children's books, and he discovered Sir Peter Scott's work as a bird artist.

He is also the man who suggested, while he was a member of the Design Council, that all motorway signs should be written in their now-familiar lower-case lettering to make them more legible.

## Fire of their ways

A READER sends me a copy of a football pools advertisement in the Daily Mirror last week which ends: "The Pool Promoters' Association wish all their clients a merry Christmas. Not applicable in the Republic of Ireland."

PETERBOROUGH

## LETTERS

## Essentials of early literacy

SIR—Once again there has been an investigation into academic success in secondary schools; once again the most influential factor is ignored: reading attainment by age seven plus.

In Norfolk 49.7 per cent of pupils have no examination passes as school leavers. I believe this is directly connected with the 41 per cent who are backward in reading by age seven plus. The median reading quotient (reading age expressed as a percentage of chronological age, where 100 RQ means "keeping up") for Norfolk is 102.9 (1983).

A good school, even in a social priority area, can top 110 and even reach 115 some years. The test makes modest demands to reach 100. A good school will have between 10 per cent, and none at all below 100. Norfolk has 17.1 per cent below 90—which is dreadful.

Inevitably, this poor start is reflected in examination results. "O" and "A" levels are low at six, not 16.

Failure in individual children has been plausibly explained away for too long by the phrase: "All children are different." We have had so much failure for so long that teachers have for granted. Local education authority results would tell something, but they conceal best and worst in individual schools.

When infant teachers start getting it right, social class will cease to be reflected in "A" level results, and the cost of education can then be cut by a third or a quarter.

Parents and school governors should have the right to know their school's median RQ at the age of seven plus.

(Mrs) MONA MCNEE  
Dereham, Norfolk

## Converting railways

SIR—I see that once again ("Tracks for Trucks" Dec 17) you are supporting the idea of converting railways into roads, a suggestion that seems at odds with your usual views on public spending. For any conversion will cost an awful lot of money. If we examine the proposal to make the M40/M100 line into a "busway," experts have estimated the expenditure needed will be between £10 and £20 million per 10 miles.

Surely, therefore, it makes more sense, and incidentally will be cheaper, to seek to transfer traffic away from

Other letters, page 6

these overcrowded roads and on to these little-used railways? This is the thinking behind the present policy of the Greater London Council.

You note that nothing came of British Rail's study into rail conversions. Could this simply be that they were found to be a costly waste of time and effort?

TIMOTHY J. MICKLEBURGH  
Atherstone, Warwick

## Whisky blender

SIR—Having pondered on the mystique of whisky production for many years, I recall the occasion of an all-male local agricultural dinner some 40 years ago during which one of our more illustrious members was the recipient of a competition challenge cup; a small group of us well versed in the qualities of whisky to further mark the achievement decided to accompany him home for a final highball.

It was a winter's night and his dear wife had gone on to bed but in thoughtful anticipation had left a tray of sparkling glasses with a bottle before a blazing log fire and with much gratitude and gentility we finished the bottle before going merrily on our way in the small hours.

How shocked we were though to subsequently discover that this ever resourceful lady had previously removed three-quarters of the whisky and blended the remainder with weak cold tea all without detection. With experience I regard it as a jolly good medium for entertainment and treat the merits of age, origin, the grain-malt aroma etc., as incidental to the enjoyment obtained from the convivial spirit in which it needs to be taken.

JOEL GRIMES  
Wotton-under-Edge, Glos.

## Family Shakespeare

SIR—Amid the dismay caused by the publication in America of an expurgated edition of Shakespeare, it is as well to remember that there is nothing new. When the eponymous Dr Thomas Bowdler published his "Family Shakespeare" in 1818, such an edition was regarded as both necessary and desirable.

The Edinburgh Review observed that using such an edition "is a great consequence to take care that you run no risk of corruption in the pursuit of innocent amusement or valuable instruction."

We think it is better, every way, that what cannot be spoken, and ought not to have been written, should now cease to be printed.

The "Family Shakespeare" remained in print until 1925, and was by no means the last edition of Shakespeare to be mutilated in this way.

ARNOLD HUNT  
London, N.W.4.

## Just imagine

SIR—I take it that the fairy atop the barren tree in the Peterborough cartoon (Dec. 19) is intended as a representation of Mr Arthur Scargill. My dictionary says that a fairy is an imaginary being, generally of diminutive and graceful form—a creature of overpowering charm.

Gosh!

ANTONY RANDLE  
Warwick

## Up and down

SIR—There must be a world of difference between "That's up to you, Guv" and "That's down to you, mate."

F. K. LLOYD  
London, N.12.

## Getting prepared

SIR—I have to curtsy every day to the mistress on duty when I go home from curtsy. Prizewinners always have to curtsy, and on sports day. It does not hurt me to curtsy, and it is a useful thing to be able to do because one day I might meet the Queen.

LUCY DICKINS  
(aged 10),  
Lane End, Bucks.



## INVESTMENT &amp; BUSINESS

City Editor

Andreas  
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Tel: 01-353 4242U.S. Chase  
gives oil  
forecast  
the go by

LAST week's indecisive meeting by the Opec ministers in Geneva is only the latest in a series of signals that the world petroleum markets are well beyond the cartel's control.

Industrial energy consumers and government economists alike share a level of uncertainty about what 1985 will bring for the price of oil and gas and for their major producers. One of the traditional authorities about world energy trends is in the same dilemma.

Chase Manhattan Bank, through its long association with Exxon and other producers, probably has the best intelligence gathering and analysis capability aside from the major producers themselves. Through its Chase Energy Economics service, the bank's annual forecast of oil and gas supply and price trends is an eagerly awaited event at about this time each year.

"We are not issuing a formal forecast this year; that is how uncertain things are. It is too uncertain to say whether prices are going to hold or not. A lot depends on inventory levels and a lot of that depends on expectations and external

THE  
AMERICAN  
INTERVIEW

forces such as the weather," says David Behling, head of Chase Energy Economics.

The Harvard P.D. economist took over the division last year after having come to it in 1978 from the government's Energy Research and Development Administration. It was while he was at ERDA that Mr Behling built his reputation around an economic model that forecast energy price and supply variables.

But, even with that expertise, Mr Behling and Chase do not want to hazard a guess at the price trends of 1985.

"To understand our reluctance you have to understand what happened in 1984. The surprise of 1984 included a 700,000 barrels per day greater level of production from non-Opec sources than we had expected."

"A lot of that came from Canada, some more from the United States and the rest from the Far East," Mr Behling explained.

"The other big change this year is that we expected the inventory stocks of petroleum to be rebuilt. Stocks had really been run down, largely due to an anticipation that prices will drop."

"That misreading of inventory trends, for another 800,000 barrels per day that we had expected to be absorbed by demand but which were not. So in all we ended up with roughly 1.5 million barrels per day that were not absorbed."

"In fairness there was higher demand than expected, too. But that was primarily a case of one-time factors that aren't continuing. There was a very cold winter last year, but it has been warm so far this winter."

The United States economy grew rapidly last winter, then slowed that growth quite a bit. The coal strike in Britain has had its effect and we won't be able to judge the impact of that for some time to come."

"Right now our growth expectation for next year is about half what we had this year, and that means that oil prices depend on the two chief factors—inventory behaviour and the willingness of Opec to limit production in the face of severe pressure on each of the member (and allied) countries."

"My own belief is that the free world will see annual economic growth in 1984 averaging something like 4 p.c. Next year we will see a little less than 3 p.c. growth on average, the primary force being the sharp decline in the United States economic growth rate. That in turn will translate into lower growth in demand for oil—the demand will grow but more slowly," says Mr Behling.

James Srodes

Guinness buys  
grocery chain  
in £12m deal

By JOHN RUDOLFSKY

ARTHUR Guinness and Sons, which already owns the Lavelle and the Martin chain of newsagents and tobacconists, is moving into the grocery trade with the £12 million acquisition of Neighbourhood Stores.

The deal is expected to lead to a new outbreak of competition in secondary shopping sites which the major grocery retailers have deserted in favour of their superstore developments.

It may also mark a major change in the look of local shopping parades since Neighbourhood, trading under the "7-Eleven" name, has adopted an American-style shopping concept which is already growing fast here and in other countries.

Earlier this month the three-cornered bid battle for Cullen's Stores ended in victory for three ex-Imperial Group executives, who plan a similar facility for their 95-strong chain into early opening and late closing convenience stores.

It is the sudden emergence of new competition that persuaded David Linnell, 54, Neighbourhood's chairman, to accept the Guinness offer and its financial backing less than two years after forming the company.

Guinness is offering five of its shares for every two Neighbourhood shares. The terms are worth 30p per Neighbourhood share and with the backing of directors and certain institutions, 65 p.c. of the equity is already committed to the offer.

Neighbourhood has more than 200 shareholders who bought stock at 210p in a £4.2 million business expansion scheme offer in July last year.

Sterling - P & O link  
likely in January

By BRUCE KINLOCH

THE anticipated £700 million merger between Sterling Guarantee Trust and Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation group is expected to be announced in January.

Some stockbrokers close to the company claim that all leave for senior staff has already been cancelled for a period just after the New Year.

It is clear that the timing of any merger rests more on the share price of the two companies rather than on other factors. As with all mergers it will be essential that there is a correct balance between the share price of Sterling Guarantee and P & O at the time the deal is struck.

Since Sterling Guarantee paid £31 million to Trafalgar House for its 7 p.c. stake in P & O last September the shares of Sterling have moved up sharply from 50p to 65p, while those of P & O have levelled off marginally to 30p.

Jeffrey Sterling, chairman of both companies, will be at great pains to ensure that terms of any merger are favourable to all shareholders.

## UK waits for Opec move

By ROLAND GRIBBEN

OIL ministers from the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries were continuing their discussion with their heads of government over the weekend to tighten production controls and avoid a price cut.

But market observers and analysts were arguing that unless the 13-nation cartel moves to cut prices the new pricing system is only likely to have a short-term effect on confidence.

Britain is waiting anxiously to assess the outcome of the Opec manoeuvres before making crucial decisions on prices. But the British National Oil Corporation has already signalled that it will have little option but to reduce prices next month and is understood to have cut rates for its remaining contract customers.

## THE DAILY TELEGRAPH SHARE RACE 1985

## HERE'S THE CHANCE TO PICK YOUR OWN SHARE WINNER

ONCE again we invite readers to try their skill at Stock Exchange investments by naming the single share in our daily lists which they believe will outperform all others during 1985.

This is the seventh year of what has proved to be an extremely popular competition. Every month we will be publishing regular reports on the progress of the race.

As prizes there will be at least 100 bottles of champagne with magnifying for the outright winners. The reader or readers who nominate the winning share will each be sent a bottle. Then those nominating the second-best share... and so on.

In the 1984 competition 106 readers nominated one of the 13 best shares and each received a bottle of champagne. A lunch was held for the prize-winners at which Alex Fletcher, the Consumer Affairs Minister, made the presentation.

Any one of our readers can hope to do well. The outright winner this time was a 23-year-old business studies student from Ruislip. The runners-up

by brokers Greig, Middleton. The shares are not quoted. There are 15 "7-Eleven" stores in this country, 14 of them in London. The first opened last May and another 40 are already planned by end-1985. From March 1985 to September 2 this year the company made a net loss of £511,000.

All stores are operated under a licence held by the company from Southland Corporation, the United States originator of the idea. It is now America's tenth largest grocery trader — and largest petrol retailer — with 8,000 stores and sales of \$8.5 billion. Neighbourhood pays a sales royalty to Southland which may rise to a maximum 1 p.c.

The stores sell hot convenience foods as well as newspapers, cigarettes and groceries. "We are there for what you run out of," declared Mr Linnell, former head of Linnell, which is now the Dee Corporation.

Unlike individually owned corner stores, often Asian-run, the "7-Eleven" shops all have the same design, seen usually in hamburger restaurants, for example.

Mr Linnell claims the market is bigger than he at first expected and predicts that competition will get hot. The next development, following the American line, is to set up stores on petrol station sites.

A large "7-Eleven" chain has been developed in Japan and Japan's Matsudaira runs the stores in Hongkong and other Far East centres.

Guinness said it has studied the sector in depth and confirmed its growth potential in the United Kingdom. Mr Linnell remains the company's chairman within the Guinness Group.

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## LOMBARD STREET

## NOT AT A LOSS FOR WORDS

THE CITY of London is to celebrate the bicentenary of Samuel Johnson by commissioning a dictionary of its own.

The project, to be announced early in April next year, is already assured of support from sources as diverse as the Stock Exchange and the Bullion Dealers Mutual Aid Fund. Arthur Young McClelland Moores have generously offered to qualify the accounts free of charge.

A steering committee under Martin Jacobson has decided, by a majority—David Hopkinson dissenting—to entrust the work to the prominent financial lexicographer Dr Lombard Street.

"I am standing on giants' shoulders," says Dr Street. It was, he points out, Johnson himself who defined "Stockjobber" as "A low wretch, who gets money by buying and selling shares in the Funds," citing a quatrain from Swift:

The stockjobber thus from  
Change Alley goes down,  
And tips you the freeman a wink:  
Let me have but your vote to  
serve for the town,  
And here is a guinea to drink.

The City scholar of today, Dr Street believes, must contend with a language or languages whose relationship to English is inconsistent and frequently misleading. That relationship may be as close as a code: "troubled" = "bust," "controversial" = "promoter of the above."

At the further extreme is Threadneedle, which, despite superficial resemblances, may not be an Indo-European language at all.

Poring over the texts, Dr Street has concluded that Threadneedle, must be read, not vertically like Japanese, nor from right to left like Arabic, nor like most Western languages along the lines, but between them.

This has led him to redefine such words as "interest" and "forecast." Thus, "no domestic reason why interest rates should rise" means "they are going through the roof for some other reason," and "our forecasts and the Treasury's are within others' margins of error" means "I know it's Christmas, but this is ridiculous." Over the cross-word "public" ("no public money is involved"), Dr Street is still puzzling.

The City dictionary will distinguish between different tribal speech patterns and also between stages in those patterns' development. For example, Dr Street's working definition of "names,"

Names, n. pl.:  
1. (Bill-broking). The parties to a bill of exchange. "Two good names on a bill lend lustre to each other."—Gillett.  
2. (Lloyd's). A source of income.  
3. (Lloyd's). A source of yachts, villas, impressionists, etc.—(Obs?).  
4. (Fund management). Either the fund manager or his fund, depending on the subsequent performance of the share being bought. "Names later, old boy."—Dawson.

Other definitions finding their way into Dr Street's notebook include:  
Account:  
1. (Stockbroking). A limited period of profit, followed by a longer period of loss. "This one will run, this account." = "We're

fattening it up, and there's a rights issue round the corner.  
2. (Auditing). A true and fair view, or one such. See also "watch-dog," "bloodhound."

Core: (Fund management). Unsaleable. "Core holding" = Our brokers forgot to get us out. See also "long-term."

Demand: (Stockbroking). Supply. "Foreign investment demand" = We are selling all we've got to the Americans.

Goodwill: (Accountancy). The amount by which what you paid for something exceeds what the people who sold it thought it was worth. "This is the season of goodwill."—Barkshire.

Long-term:  
1. (Discount market). Tea-time.  
2. (Stockbroking). Boring. "The shares are a long-term hold" = We are brokers to the company. "This year, next year, some time, long-term."—City counting rhyme.

Unauthorised: (Banking). Loss-making. "Losses were due to unauthorised bond trading."—Bear Sterns. "Nobody authorised me to get it wrong."—Buer. (Note by Dr Street: Is there any recorded instance of an unauthorised profit?)

Unwelcome: (Bids and deals). Welcome, except to the directors. "This unsolicited and unwelcome approach" = Thank goodness we fixed up those service contracts.

Warehouse: see "weakness."

Weakness: (Stockbroking). Strength. "Continue to accumulate on weakness" = Who, us? Even as he sets out on the long path of scholarship, Dr Street knows that he may be overtaken from Brussels. Pending the development of a compulsory Common Market language (or Euro-speranto), the commission is working on a draft directive which will standardise all financial terms. Some City words will find themselves outside the regulations, all others must be matched to their opposite numbers in Italian—and soon Portuguese.

Stiamo accanto all'azione = Approssimiamo a accao = We at Shonn & Buckett are pretty close to the share.

Such is lexicography, say Dr Street. Language develops, languages rise and fall. Johnson himself hoped no more for his Dictionary than that it would live longer to that which nature forbids to be immortal. "Lexicographer" he defined as "A writer of dictionaries: a harmless drudge."

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Opportunist: (Merchant banking). Inopportune. "Reject this opportunist bid" = Our side was caught with its dividends down. See also "unwelcome."

P.A.:  
1. (Joint-stock banking). business bureaucracies in general. A secretary who has outgrown the pay-scale.  
2. (Fund management). Personal account. See "names, 4." But: This is one for you, P.A., not for your clients. = We are so desperate to sell this stock that we'll tell you anything.

Speculative: (Investment). Well-informed. "Jobbers reported speculative buying in a thin market" = Whetnall.

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By Christopher Fildes

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# Super Seven notches 34 pc gain

"THE Super Seven for 1984" was the name I gave the Questor portfolio a year ago, and it has lived up to its title.

Of the seven shares selected, only one is lower today than it was last Christmas Eve. The best performer in the stable has more than doubled and the average gain of 34.1 p.c. leaves the 21 p.c. rise in the market as a whole well behind.

The star of the show has been Dee Corporation. When the shares were included in the portfolio they stood at 385p and I suggested that a reasonable target for the price would be 500p.

It did not take Dee more than a couple of months to reach that level, however, and during the summer each share was effectively divided into four shares. The shares in their new form closed at 197p on Friday—equivalent to 788p in the form in which they were recommended.

In the meantime, Dee shares have been as high as 215p, a handsome 120 p.c. higher than the starting price. They will go higher yet.

A year ago, the British and Chinese Governments were about to get down to the "Eighth Round" of negotiations over the future of Hong Kong. Last week, a deal was signed and despite some misgivings in the colony itself, the financial situation there has stabilised.

This has been partially reflected in the share price performance on another Questor selection, Hongkong Land. The share was entered in the portfolio at 25p. It was obviously speculative, because if the talks with the Chinese had failed, or reached a stalemate, Hongkong Land shares would have been grounded.

In the event, they are 68.6 p.c. ahead. The company's fortunes are sound, the management is first class and the potential still dramatically understated. These shares are not, currently, for selling.

Each New Year portfolio needs an old and trusted friend and for 1984 I fell back on BTR, probably the country's best managed industrial conglomerate, and have not been disappointed.

BTR went in at 418p and closed on Friday at 585p, a gain of 41 p.c.—virtually twice the market advance. The BTR management has now fully digested Thomas Tilling and has earmarked the spring of 1985 as a suitable time to make the next big take-over.

Given the enduring beneficial effect that BTR's takeovers

## QUESTOR

David Brewerton

tend to have on earnings per share, 1985 looks like being another good year.

It should be a good year for Meggitt, too. I have to confess to being a bit ahead of the game in recommending Meggitt for 1984. The new management, Ken Coates and Nigel McCormick, moved in from their old jobs in Flight Refuelling only in January, and it took a while to get things moving.

Adjusting for the two rights issues, the Meggitt starting price equates to 47p and Friday's close of 60p gives the share a 26.7 p.c. gain over the year.

Meggitt's original machine tool business has been put into

profitable shape and a couple of acquisitions have given the group a way into energy engineering and specialised distribution.

The acquisition strategy has established Meggitt with a profit base of some £800,000 per annum for the current year and the capital raising activities mean that the company now has some £2.5 million cash available for further purchases, as well as its highly rated shares. Stay put.

Crystalline Holdings finished the year on a dull note, although the shares were 16.5 p.c. higher than at the start of 1984. The company's sale of the fine china and ceramics businesses of Royal Worcester, acquired late in 1983, went every bit as well as planned.

The electronics business that came with the Royal Worcester package, Welwyn Electronics, performed well up to expectations. But the original Crystalline businesses were caught in a squeeze imposed by British Telecom, and that affected the profits performance. From a high point of 253p the share rattled all the way back to

235p with City sentiment somewhat shaken.

Last week was a rough one for Westland, when it had to disclose not only lower profits but also a heavy provision against its civil helicopter stocks. British Aerospace had to make a similar provision a couple of years ago.

Westland shares, included at 166p, closed the week at 152p, a 21 p.c. fall on the year. At that level, the main support is the yield of nearly 10 p.c., but

Westland will find few friends until orders for both civil and military aircraft quicken.

Edinburgh Financial Trust changed its name during the year—when it entered into the portfolio it was called Yorkshire and Lancashire Investment Trust. The share price has remained steady and on Friday closed unchanged on the year.

The company is developing along the lines it promised, but has not so far captured the market's imagination.

## THE QUESTOR SUPER SEVEN

	Price Dec. 24 1983	Price Dec. 21 1984	Change
Dee Corporation	596.25	197	+104.7
Hong Kong Land	25.5	43	+68.6
BTR	418	585	+40.0
Meggitt	47	60	+27.7
Crystalline	200	236	+18.0
Edinburgh Financial	45	45	0.0
Westland	166	152	-20.5
Average			+34.1
Total Market			+21.1

## BAT scores for the Professionals

HOWARD COATES, research partner at London brokers de Zoete & Bevan (right) receives his prize from The Daily Telegraph City Editor Andrew Whitlam Smith.

Mr Coates entered BAT Industries in the "Pick of the Professionals" and, between the starting date and the close of business on December 7, the shares rose 77.1 p.c.

Since then the shares have gone up a further 40p to his gain to last Friday would have been a heady 94 p.c. Following the

take-over of Hambro Life, BAT is likely to be further re-rated. In second place came Jonathan Timms, a partner in Liverpool based stockbrokers Tilney & Co. He picked a local runner, Pilkington Brothers, which rose 43.2 p.c. in competition period.

Unfortunately, Pilkington could not resist the temptation to take advantage of its high flying share price and made a rights issue.

Overall, the shares selected by the market professionals rose by a modest 4.6 p.c. but I should point out that they were in no way a "portfolio" more a random selection.

## PICK OF THE PROFESSIONALS

	Dec. 31 1983	Dec. 7 1984	Change
BAT Industries	175	310	+77.1
Pilkington Bros.	220	315	+43.2
Geers Gross	114	147	+28.9
GEC	180	228	+26.7
Distillers	244	307	+25.8
UEI	140	160	+14.3
Chloride	23	26	+13.0
LCP	82	92	+12.2
Aspinall	138	114	-17.4
Ranger Oil	790	400	-49.4
Oceanic	265	130	-50.9
Audiotronic	20	7.5	-62.5
Average			+5.1



## COMPUTERS

By Michael Beckett

## Programming by the book

ELECTRONICS has long been touted as replacement for paper, yet computers and programs still arrive with massive tomes of instruction. A further paradox of this information business is the numbing opacity of these manuals.

Such failures have produced a secondary industry publishing founts of books for bewildered users. Today is your final chance to get one of these as a last minute Christmas present to help a confused computer owner. Failing that, such guidance might be a consolation for Christmas book tokens—or just a useful New Year present to yourself.

One type of such book explains what computers do and how. You do not need to know this to work with one, just as ignorance of the Otto cycle stops nobody from driving a car. But some people have a desire for both sorts of knowledge.

A simple introduction from Colin Day and Donald Alcock is "Illustrating Computers" (Pan, £1.95, 165 pages), which starts from scratch and talks plain English. A brilliantly plain and practical guide "Micromania" by Charles Platt and David Lufford (Sphere, £1.75, 186 pages) makes useful specific advice for beginners less approachable with hard-to-read type and amateurish drawings, but is worth the effort.

At a more advanced level is "The Micro Maze" by Wynford James (Mico Press, £5.95, 154 pages). If you want to start going there is an impressively lucid new book from Professor Donald Michie and Rory Johnston.

Called "The Creative Computer" (Viking, £12.95, 320 pages) it manages to explain artificial intelligence and its future with clarity and humour, avoiding jargon and philosophy. It prompts the reader into ad-

miration, understanding and thought. Recommended.

Another category of books tries to help with the purchase. You would need to be a professional user to embark on something as extensive as "How to Buy Software" by Alfred Gloschner (Macmillan, £9.95, 810 pages), especially as it tells you a lot more than most people would want to know at this stage—e.g. how to run a Viscalc program.

A briefer and more practical guide is "How to Choose and Use Business Microcomputers and Software" (ES-95, 208 pages). Though one may occasionally get irritated at being talked down to, it has sensible specific advice.

Generally beware of books purporting to tell you what products to buy. By the time of date in coverage, price and specifications, I have not seen one to recommend. For that reason, I would better to consult journals or the National Computing Centre.

For magazine tests in book form there is "Business Micro Benchmarks" edited by Peter Bright (Century, £7.95, 198 pages) which reproduces reports on 18 popular computers as they appeared in the magazine Personal Computer World.

Finally, there are guides to specific products. "Everyman's Database Primer," by Robert Byers (Ashton Tate, 295 pages) is published by producer of Base II and shows how to use that popular but difficult program.

Do not be deterred that it insults your intelligence by starting with an explanation of what a telephone directory is—painfully pedestrian and worthy though the book is later you may be grateful for being treated like a 10 year old.

Working with dBase II" by M. de Pace (Granada, £7.95, 172 pages), assumes familiarity with computers plus intelligence and application: it was written for adults and if you follow it carefully, it will take you through comprehensively. But do not be tempted to skip even a single sentence in this book because in its narrow compass it goes further than the previous one, and by the end you can create not just databases but quite complex programs to link with other software.

## STOCK MARKETS OVERSEAS

By Clifford German

## Hongkong pastures new

THE FORMAL signing of the agreement returning Hongkong to China in 1997 coincided with a fresh surge of confidence which sent the Hang Seng index to a new peak for the year last week. Since July when uncertainty over the colony's future was at its height, the index has risen by 80 p.c. Once the outlines of the agreement were known overseas investors began investing again in Hongkong stocks, and especially in the better-known names such as Hong Kong & Shanghai Bank.

In the past two weeks however local investors have also begun putting their money back into the stock market, a move which will favour the smaller and local companies.

The market still bears some of the scars caused by the recession and high interest rates which have struck property companies since 1981, and by the flight of confidence triggered by Jardine Matheson's decision to shift its head office to Bermuda.

The local banks such as Hong Kong and Bank of East Asia have not yet fully recovered, and the property sector is still held back by further write offs expected in the 1984 accounts.

But Hong Kong Land's market capitalisation, fully covered by its assets in hotels, food manufacturing and its stake in Hong Kong Electric.

Assuming there is no sudden loss of confidence which might panic local investors, the prospects for the next six to 12 months look good.

The economy grew by about 8 p.c. this year and is expected to expand by another 6 p.c. in 1985. The policy of pegging the currency to the United States dollar has helped control inflation, and prime rates have come down from the crisis level of 17 p.c. to 11 p.c. over the weekend. Real earnings are expected to rise by up to 5 p.c. in the coming year.

The best indicator of returning business confidence was the Timbshart land auction last month which fetched twice the price of a similar sale in the summer. Bids for a 24 hectare site on Canton Road closed on Friday and estimates have been revised up from 250 million to 500 million Hongkong dollars in the HK \$80 million to HK \$60 million range, with Hong Kong & Kowloon Wharf or a mainland based contender as the likely winner for a contest which includes the commitment to build a new ferry terminal.

Hutchinson Whampoa has also just announced a new residential property development near Kaitak Airport which indicates the strength of returning confidence in the colony's future.

The prospects for the manufacturing sector depend to a certain extent on continued access to traditional markets especially in the United States.

Although the Hongkong business community is monitoring protectionist lobbies in Washington very closely.

But they are very optimistic about the prospects opening up in China itself. Hong Kong Aircraft Engineering, a quoted subsidiary of the Swire Group has a contract to refurbish

aircraft for China Airlines alongside British Airways jumbos, and Hong Kong Telephones, a quoted subsidiary of Cable & Wireless, is busy updating telephone systems in China.

Hongkong's trade with China has been growing at an annual rate of 60 p.c. a year or more, but the prospects in such a massive hinterland are enormous.

Although the Japanese and South Koreans are likely to compete fiercely for construction contracts, Hongkong has priceless advantages in providing banking and financial services.

The Americans and the Japanese are also expected to use Hongkong as a base for entering the China market.

Although the stock market has recovered so strongly in the past few months, Hongkong shares are still remarkably cheap relative to, say, Japan. Average price earnings ratios for the market as a whole are still just in single figures.

Savory Mill likes the look of China Light & Power on about 12 times historic earnings, Hong Kong & Shanghai Bank on about nine times, and Hutchison Whampoa on seven times.

Wocom Securities, an associate of the Wing On Group, notes Swire Pacific on about eight times 1984 earnings and Hong Kong & Kowloon Wharf on about 16 times.

Prospective earnings should show average increases of 10 to 15 p.c. over the coming year according to de Zoete & Bevan's team of analysts.

# SDP policy battle is about fundamentals

## ECONOMIC COMMENTARY



By Matthew Symonds

IT SOMETIMES feels as if the nearest we get to an economic debate in this country is Tory backbenchers' railing their demands for new sewers and the Chancellor sneering back at them.

Anyone of a fastidious disposition, or who fears that they will get their fill of pantomime over Christmas, might wish to take note of the less public but very much more interesting policy debate which is taking shape within the SDP. It is important for two reasons.

In the first place it will determine whether the SDP is a conservative party with reformist edges or a genuinely radical political force. Secondly, because the SDP is to an extraordinary degree the "economists' party" and because it is relatively free from the intellectually corrupting influence of special interest groups, the debate is about fundamentals which go to the very heart of our present dilemmas.

As usual, it is simplistic to talk in terms of two camps with completely opposing views, but it is not an exaggeration to say that the SDP is divided. Ranged on one side are the people who made most of the running when the party was first formed—mainly refugees from the Labour party and long-time political associates of Roy Jenkins.

They essentially believe that Thatcherism represents an exaggerated and aberrational response to the accidents and excesses of the 1970s. They think that the aim of policy should be to try to recreate the conditions of the 1950s and 1960s, and with the benefit of hindsight, improve upon them. To say that they are the proponents of "better yesterday" sounds cheap, but it is not far from the truth.

On the other side are the radicals, including David Owen. A great many of them have only become involved in politics since the SDP was established, but they also number people like Dr Owen who have experienced an intellectual liberation since leaving the Labour party.

Their most distinctive contribution is their realisation that it should be possible, some would argue essential, to synthesise centre-left social objectives with free market economics.

The radicals also take a different and much less sanguine view about the recent past than the SDP conservatives. They do not see the 1970s as a curious disconnected decade when things went wrong for no particular reason. Instead they see that disastrous period as a direct consequence of the increasingly undisciplined demand management policies practised by successive Governments.

Instinctively, they would tend to agree with the proposition which Peter Jay first articulated 11 years ago, that there is an inherent incompatibility between full employment collective bargaining by monopoly trade unions and non-inflationary inflation.

In other words, any attempt by Government to expand demand by a sufficient amount to bring about a rapid fall in unemployment will result in rapidly increasing inflation because of institutional rigidities in the labour market.

Unlike their SDP colleagues, they are far from convinced that any conceivable incomes policy—even one as flexible and decentralised as Richard Laver's "inflation tax"—would square the circle for more than a year.

With their espousal of radical economics, their scepticism about incomes policy and conviction that any significant increase in demand would be damaging in the absence of a reformed labour market, it is easy to understand why Dr

It would be misleading to suggest that detailed policies are emerging, but the essence of an approach is visible. The first part of it comes straight from the Institute of Economic Affairs' wish list of micro-measures to free up the labour market—a renewed assault on union monopoly power, the reform of wages councils and so-called employment protection legislation. That is, as it were, the low road to supply improvements.

The high road involves a substantial shift in the ownership of capital and productive property towards ordinary workers as a compensation both for union power and the lower real wages which would be the intentional result. The principle behind this approach is that unemployment, rates which do not justify full until pay adjusts to market clearing levels.

However, for some workers, especially at a time of rapid technical advance, wages may be unacceptably low. The answer is that they should also have a share in the rewards of capital. If workers received income from capital ownership as well as from wages, they would stand to gain on the roundabout of economic change which they lost on the swings.

How such a revolution in capital ownership might be achieved is, of course, a practical question which cannot be ducked. Samuel Brittan has made a number of suggestions, including public unit trusts whose shares would be distributed to all citizens, but he would be the first to admit that there was an urgent requirement for others to come up with more detailed proposals.

The only question is whether the SDP really is as radical as it likes to think itself. The "better yesterday" conservatism will have to be dragged kicking and screaming into the late 1980s.

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23rd December, 1984.

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## HARTONS GROUP Plc

(Registered in England No. 151965)

SHARE CAPITAL		Issued and Fully paid
Authorised	£2,400,000	£2,140,000
Ordinary shares of 5p each		

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the Ordinary Shares of Hartons Group Plc, newly admitted to the Unlisted Securities Market, to be admitted to the Official List. Dealings are expected to commence on 31st December 1984.

Hartons Group Plc is a holding company with interests in the distribution of plastics, the manufacture of consumer products and the manufacture of P.V.C. film and spring assemblies. Particulars relating to Hartons Group Plc are available in the Exel Statistical Services and copies of such particulars are available during normal business hours on any weekday (Saturdays excepted) up to and including 16th January 1985 from:

Barclays Merchant Bank Limited, 15, 16 Gracechurch Street, LONDON EC3Y 6BA

Forster & Brathwaite, 22 Abchurch Lane, LONDON EC4N 3DU

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## The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation

(Incorporated with limited liability under the laws of the State of Delaware, United States of America)

Authorised 200,000,000 Common Shares of U.S.\$1.00 par value 78,028,666

Including 1,563,440 shares reserved for issue

The Council of The Stock Exchange has admitted to the Official List all the 78,028,660 shares of common stock of The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation issued and reserved for issue.

Particulars relating to The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation are available in the Exel Statistical Service and copies of such particulars may be obtained during usual business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and public holidays excepted) up to and including 7th January, 1985 from:

S. G. Warburg & Co. Ltd., 33 King William Street, London EC4R 9AS

Cazenove & Co., 12 Tokenhouse Yard, London EC2R 7AN

24th December, 1984

Issued, and reserved, for issue, at 31st October, 1984

## THE POUND ABROAD

	31-12-84	Prev. close
Australia	78.12-18	78.23-28
Belgium	78.12-18	78.23-28
Canada	78.12-18	78.23-28
France	78.12-18	78.23-28
Germany	78.12-18	78.23-28
Italy	78.12-18	78.23-28
Japan	78.12-18	78.23-28
Netherlands	78.12-18	78.23-28
Spain	78.12-18	78.23-28
Sweden	78.12-18	78.23-28
Switzerland	78.12-18	78.23-28
USA	78.12-18	78.23-28

## FORWARD RATES

	1m	3m	6m	12m
Australia	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Belgium	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Canada	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
France	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Germany	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Italy	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Japan	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Netherlands	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Spain	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Sweden	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Switzerland	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
USA	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

## GOLD PRICE

1m	£250.00
3m	£250.00
6m	£250.00
12m	£250.00

## OTHER MARKET RATES

Australia	191.07-192.10
Belgium	191.07-





# BLAND BATTLES TO CLASSIC WIN IN LATE BURST

By ADRIAN FREDERICK in Johannesburg

EUROPEAN tour regular John Bland birdied the last four holes of regulation play and then the first of a sudden death play-off against Nicky Price to win the £50,000 Goodyear Classic at Humewood on Saturday.

In a dramatic blanket finish which saw five players in with a chance to win, Bland came from four behind with six to play to catch Price who had looked to have the tournament wrapped up midway through the back nine.

Price, runner-up in the Open championship at Royal Troon two years ago, dropped shots on 13 and 14 and though he birdied the long 15th and 17th he could only tie the fast finishing Bland.

At the first extra hole Bland knocked in a 10ft birdie putt. Price then missed from half that distance to give Bland victory. It was the tenth time in the last five years that Price had finished runner-up in a local tournament.

Brighton's Chris Moody, who started the last round only one stroke behind leader Harold Henning after a record equalling third round of 64, had a nightmare over the front nine which he played in six over 41.

His problems started when he three-putted the first green and then had an unlikely bounce with his chip to the second to drop another shot.

On the fourth he missed from three feet, on the fifth he three-putted and he missed the green on the short sixth to drop completely out of the picture.

**Home recovery**

To his credit he pulled his game together on the back nine which he completed in three under 34. His closing 75 gave him a total of 285, good enough for a share of seventh place and a cheque for £1,100.

Warren Humphreys, who was also handily placed going into the last round, never got going and matched Moody's 75 to finish a stroke behind him. Humphreys birdied two of the last three holes to earn himself a cheque of £850.

Dennis Watson also birdied the last four holes in a row to finish just one stroke behind Bland and



John Bland... followed up last year's win in the Benson and Hedges International at Fulford with his ninth Sunshine Circuit victory at the Goodyear Classic.

Price on 278. On the same mark was young Wayne Westwood who birdied four of the last five for his best showing since winning the ICL International in 1982.

Hugh Baiocchi also had a run at victory that missed crucial birdie points on 18 and 19 to finish two strokes behind.

277-J. Bland, 69, 69, 72, 69; N. Price, 72, 70, 64, 69; Bland won on first extra hole.

278-D. Watson, 68, 74, 68, 68; W. Westwood, 71, 68, 61, 68; 279-W. Humphreys, 70, 69, 72, 74; 280-C. Moody, 71, 67, 63, 69; 281-H. Henning, 72, 69, 72, 73; 282-P. Henning, 74, 72, 71, 73; 283-M. Moody, 74, 70, 74, 70; 284-J. Bland, 74, 77, 72, 71.

## Lawn Tennis

# Dooohan roars back for biggest cheque

By A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

PETER DOOCHAN, of Australia, landed the biggest cheque of his fledgling professional career when he came from one set down to win the South

Australian men's open lawn tennis title in Adelaide yesterday.

He conquered his nerves and problems with his usually booming serve to beat Dutchman Huub Van Boeckel 6-4, 6-4 in the 90-minute final for a first prize of £10,000.

Van Boeckel, who ousted top-seeded American Mike Bauer on Saturday, dominated the first eight games, breaking Doochan twice in the first set.

But Doochan like the Dutchman unseeded, moved on to the offensive, hitting his seven aces as Van Boeckel struggled to maintain the excellent form he showed in the semi-final.

Nervous opening

Doochan, 25, who turned professional this year, said later he was surprised at how nervous he had been in the opening games.

Van Boeckel was the first person I had played all week who was ranked below me, so I suppose I expected to win," he said. "The pressure was on me for a change and I was a lot more nervous out there."

"And I don't mind admitting I was a bit worried after the first set. I knew I could play a lot better. The problem was I hadn't seen Huub play and I didn't have a game plan against him."

**SINGLES**—Semi-final: H. Van Boeckel (Holland) beat M. Bauer (U.S.) 6-4, 6-4, 6-4. Final: Doochan beat Van Boeckel 6-4, 6-4, 6-4.

**DOUBLES**—Semi-final: W. Mason and A. Dyer beat D. Doochan and B. Levine (U.S.) 6-4, 6-4, 6-4. Final: Mason and Dyer beat Doochan and Levine 6-4, 6-4, 6-4.

**Motor Racing**

## NEW CONTEST FOR SALOONS

A new championship series for saloons—powerful racing cars—will be staged throughout 1985, with eight races counting towards the title.

The races will be run over 50 and 75 miles at Brands Hatch, Oulton Park, Silverstone, Castle Combe in Wiltshire and Thruxton, and there will be compulsory pit stops in each event.

The cars must be built around standard production body shells and will be in two engine capacity classes—up to 2.5 litres and over that limit. Some are expected to be fitted with the Formula One Cosworth engines, which develop around 450 bhp.

Brands Hatch Apr 6; Castle Combe May 4; Silverstone May 12; Oulton Park May 18; Thruxton May 25; Thruxton Jun 1; Thruxton Jun 8; Thruxton Jun 15.

**Boxing**

## NEW YEAR TEST FOR GUMBS

It will be sparring as usual tomorrow for Roy Gumbs of Tottenham, who meets Chong Pak Lee, a 125 lb fighter from Hong Kong, in a 12 round bout at the BFB middleweight (12 stone) title in Seoul on Jan 2.

Gumbs, 30, leaves with Dennis Manning's hand on Boxing Day, guaranteed a £10,000 prize for a fight which could revitalise his fading career.

Gumbs, who lost his British middleweight title when knocked out in five rounds by Mark Fenech, 15 months ago, has not fought since. He is a native of the United States, knocked him out in seven rounds last March.

**SMITHS TIFTS**

The Smith brothers, Sid and Terry, feature on the Elephant and Castle promotion on Jan 28. Sid Smith, former Southern Area welterweight champion, tops the bill against Frank Morro, of Ghana. His younger brother tackles Willie Wilson, the Nottingham Lightweight.

**Telegraph Year Book 85**

The Daily Telegraph Year Book 85 is now available. It has a foreword by Walter Hadley, and includes E. W. Swanton on the Telegraph Twin Hundreds and Cricketers of the Year; articles by Michael Malford; statistics by Bill Franklin; and a book is available at £4.95 paperback or £5.95 hardback from bookshops including the Telegraph Bookshop, 130 Fleet Street, London or by post (add 55p a.p.) from Department C78, The Daily Telegraph, 135 Fleet Street, London EC4P 4BL.

# Boxing Day cards and riders

## HUNTINGDON

**HOTSPUR** 12.30—Phonix Gold 1.0—Fortina Express 1.3—On Leas 1.5—Jimbrow 2.0—Mossy Moore 2.5—Charlotte's Dance 3.0—Meadow 3.5—Meadow 4.0—Meadow 4.5—Meadow 5.0—Meadow 5.5—Meadow 6.0—Meadow 6.5—Meadow 7.0—Meadow 7.5—Meadow 8.0—Meadow 8.5—Meadow 9.0—Meadow 9.5—Meadow 10.0—Meadow 10.5—Meadow 11.0—Meadow 11.5—Meadow 12.0—Meadow 12.5—Meadow 13.0—Meadow 13.5—Meadow 14.0—Meadow 14.5—Meadow 15.0—Meadow 15.5—Meadow 16.0—Meadow 16.5—Meadow 17.0—Meadow 17.5—Meadow 18.0—Meadow 18.5—Meadow 19.0—Meadow 19.5—Meadow 20.0—Meadow 20.5—Meadow 21.0—Meadow 21.5—Meadow 22.0—Meadow 22.5—Meadow 23.0—Meadow 23.5—Meadow 24.0—Meadow 24.5—Meadow 25.0—Meadow 25.5—Meadow 26.0—Meadow 26.5—Meadow 27.0—Meadow 27.5—Meadow 28.0—Meadow 28.5—Meadow 29.0—Meadow 29.5—Meadow 30.0—Meadow 30.5—Meadow 31.0—Meadow 31.5—Meadow 32.0—Meadow 32.5—Meadow 33.0—Meadow 33.5—Meadow 34.0—Meadow 34.5—Meadow 35.0—Meadow 35.5—Meadow 36.0—Meadow 36.5—Meadow 37.0—Meadow 37.5—Meadow 38.0—Meadow 38.5—Meadow 39.0—Meadow 39.5—Meadow 40.0—Meadow 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**Wolverhampton**

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## TELEVISION — CHRISTMAS EVE

## BBC-1

6.30 a.m. Breakfast Time. 9 Buena's Christmas Story. 9.15 Paddington. 9.30 Lassie. 9.45 Charlie Brown. 10.10 Underella. 10.25 Magic Roundabout. 10.30 Play School. 10.50 Henry's Cat. 10.55 The Chuddehounds Christmas. 11.5 The Sounds of 84: The Montreux Pop Festival. 12.5 Till You Father Gets Home. 12.50 News. Weather. 12.55 Junior Kick Start. 1.00 Quiz. 1.05 Fun. 1.10 The Christmas Raccoons. 2.15 "The Cruel Sea" (1952, b/w). Splendid wartime drama from Nicholas Monsarrat's best-seller. Jack Hawkins, Donald Sinden, Denholm Elliott, Virginia McKenna. 4.15 Pop Quiz Christmas Special. 4.25 Jeremy Irons reads "Snowflake" by Paul Gallico. 5.00 Blue Peter. (Ceefax subtitles.) 5.25 The Box of Delights: final episode. (Ceefax subtitles.)

6.00 NEWS, WEATHER.  
6.15 JIMMY FIX IT FOR CHRISTMAS — With Jimmy Savile.

## BBC-2

1.45 p.m. On the Tracks of the Wild Otter: wildlife film. 2.35 "The Gold Rush" (1925, b/w). A Christmas season of Chaplin films opens with one of his finest and most popular comedies. 4.35 The First Noel. 4.45 The First Noel. 4.55 The New Noels. 4.55 The New Noels. 4.55 "Little Women" (1949). Screen adaptation of Louisa M. Alcott's classic. 6.10 Long Beach Olympiad: story of the 1984 Olympic Yachting Regatta.

## ITV Thames

6.25 a.m. Good Morning Britain. 9.25 Father Murphy, preceded by Thames News Headlines. 10.15 Cartoon Time. 10.20 "Benji" (1974 film). 12 Freetime Christmas Special. 1.20 The Birth of Christ, as depicted in paintings. (Oracle subtitles.) 1.45 Scarecrow and Mrs. King (Oracle subtitles.) 2.40 Take Over. 3.10 "The Return of the Pink Panther" (1974 film). 3.15 Wind in the Willows. 5.45 NEWS. 6.00 THAMES NEWS — 6.25 Help! With Viv Taylor Gee. 6.35 CROSSROADS.

## Channel 4

2 p.m. Los Villancicos. 3.30 Wet Paint: travelogue on Christmas. 3.55 The Christmas Story. 4.30 Greenland. 6.00 "DARK ENEMY" (1981). A pertinent moral fable, made by the Children's Film Unit. 7.30 NEWS, WEATHER. 7.35 MAKING A SPLASH — Repeat.

6.55 "ONE OF OUR DINOSAURS IS MISSING" (1975). Entertaining romps with Peter Liston and Derek Nimmo. (Ceefax subtitles.)  
8.25 ONLY FOOLS AND HORSES — Diamonds Are for Heather. Repeat.  
8.55 CAGNEY AND LACEY — Heat. Mary Beth is taken hostage by a psychopath.  
9.45 NEWS, WEATHER.  
10.00 VAL DOONICAN'S VERY SPECIAL CHRISTMAS.  
10.50 ANGELS IN THE ANNEKE. Comedy-drama by Janet Preger, with Siobhan McKenna and Alfred Molina as a couple of school teachers at odds over the school production of the Nativity play.  
11.45 MIDNIGHT MASS OF THE NATIVITY — From the Church of St. Mary and St. John, Wolverhampton. 12.45 Weather.

## 7.30 NEWS, WEATHER.

7.35 BORN IN BETHLEHEM — The BBC Welsh Chorus with a programme of carols and other seasonal music, filmed on sites in and around Bethlehem.  
8.25 "LENA HORNE — The Lady and her Music. The award-winning solo performance.  
10.00-12.10 a.m. "THE QUIET MAN" (1952). Boisterous, John Ford-directed comedy with John Wayne and Maureen O'Hara.

7.00 WHAT'S MY LINE? CHRISTMAS SPECIAL — Hosted by Eamonn Andrews.  
7.30 CORONATION STREET. (Oracle subtitles.)  
8.00 JIM DAVIDSON'S FAIRLANDS SPECIAL — The comedian entertains the forces and islanders.  
9.00 "FUN WITH DICK AND JANE" (1977). Light, funny amusing comedy with George Segal and Jane Fonda. (Oracle subtitles.)  
10.40 NEWS.  
10.50 JOY TO THE WORLD — A celebration of Christmas past and present.  
11.40-12.10 THE BLESSING OF THE CRIB AND THE FIRST MASS OF CHRISTMAS — From the Church of John the Baptist, Newcastle upon Tyne.

8.00 BROOKSIDE.  
8.30 THE MATING CALL. Another one-off sit-com, this time featuring Jon Regalibuto.  
9.00 "PLACIDO" — A Year in the Life of Placido Domingo. The world's finest tenor observed.  
10.45 IAN BREAKWELL'S CHRISTMAS DIARY — Victorian Values.  
10.55-12.40 "A PLACE OF ONE'S OWN" (1994, b/w). Adapted from Robert Sitwell's ghost story. James Mason, Barbara Mullen, Margaret Lockwood. \*\* Outstanding. \* Recommended.

## ITV REGIONS

## TVS

6.25 Good Morning Britain.  
9.25 Father Murphy. 10.15 Cartoon Time. 10.20 "Benji" (1974 film). 12 Freetime Christmas Special. 1.20 The Birth of Christ. 1.45 Scarecrow and Mrs. King. 2.40 Take Over. 3.10 "The Return of the Pink Panther" (1974 film). 3.15 Wind in the Willows. 5.45 NEWS. 6.00 THAMES NEWS — 6.25 Help! With Viv Taylor Gee. 6.35 CROSSROADS.

## Anglia

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9.25 Father Murphy. 10.15 Cartoon Time. 10.20 "Benji" (1974 film). 12 Freetime Christmas Special. 1.20 The Birth of Christ. 1.45 Scarecrow and Mrs. King. 2.40 Take Over. 3.10 "The Return of the Pink Panther" (1974 film). 3.15 Wind in the Willows. 5.45 NEWS. 6.00 THAMES NEWS — 6.25 Help! With Viv Taylor Gee. 6.35 CROSSROADS.

## Central

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## WELSH CHANNEL 4

12.45 Yr Effeiliad. 12.55 The Citizen 2000. 1.25 "Home at Seven" — 1952 b/w suburban mystery about a clerk who loses his memory for 24 hours. Ralph Richardson, Margaret Leighton. 2.55 "The Holly and the Ivy" (1952, b/w film about family revela-

## TVS

10.15 Christmas Message. 10.30 "Benji" (1974 film). 12.00 Christmas Free-time. 12.20 Good Will to All Men. 1.00 News: Central News. 1.20 The Birth of Christ. 1.45 Scarecrow and Mrs. King. 2.40 Take Over. 3.10 "The Return of the Pink Panther" (1974 film). 3.15 Wind in the Willows. 5.45 NEWS. 6.00 THAMES NEWS — 6.25 Help! With Viv Taylor Gee. 6.35 CROSSROADS.

## Yorkshire

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## TSW

6.25-9.25 Good Morning Britain.  
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## RADIO

## FOUR

5.55 on 1 w Shipping.  
6.00 Christmas Prelude.  
6.30 Farming Week.  
6.55 Weather.  
7.00 Christmas Eve Matins.  
7.05 Today's Guide.  
8.00 News.  
8.05 Decca Island Discs.  
9.05 Laurence Bagat.  
9.15 Home from Home: two-part documentary by David Wade on WW2 evacuees.  
10.30 Five Outlets of Alistair Cooke's Letter from America: The 1940s.  
10.45 News.  
11.00 News: Travel.  
11.05 Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice" (11.10 p.m. Preview).  
11.15 Quotations: Unquote.  
12.00 Weather: Shipping.  
1.10 The Archers.  
1.35 on 1 w Shipping.  
2.00 Under the Hill, country music in the village of Elmley Castle, Worcester.  
3.00 A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols in King's College Chapel, Cambridge.  
4.30 A Charming Life: 4.15 A. A. Milne's "Winnie-the-Pooh".  
5.00 PM: Weather.  
5.25 Asterix in Britain.  
5.30 News.  
5.35 Ship Last Shipping.  
6.00 News: Financial news.  
6.15 Victorian Christmas.  
6.30 Jeffrey Archer's "Not a Penny More, Not a Penny Less" (11.10 p.m. Preview).  
7.00 News.  
7.05 The Archers.  
7.20 Christmas Punch: News for the mazzing on the humorous side of Christmas.  
7.30 Shaw at Christmas: rpt. of John Tildeman's production with Alec McCowen, Ann-Margret, and John Gielgud.  
8.30 Home from Home: part 2 of the documentary on WW2 evacuees.  
10.15 Book at Bedtime: "Just Resting".  
10.30 World Tonight.  
11.00 Children Talking.  
11.30-12.30 The First Mass on Christmas: from the Evangelist, Salford.

## THREE

6.55 Weather.  
7.00 News.  
7.05 Christmas Eve Matins.  
7.05 Morning Concert (6.55 News).  
9.00 News.  
9.05 Decca Island Discs.  
9.15 Home from Home: two-part documentary by David Wade on WW2 evacuees.  
10.30 Five Outlets of Alistair Cooke's Letter from America: The 1940s.  
10.45 News.  
11.00 News: Travel.  
11.05 Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice" (11.10 p.m. Preview).  
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## TWO

4.00 David Yarnall.  
5.30 Ray Moore.  
7.30 Terry Wogan.  
10.00 Desmond Carrington.  
12.00 The Impressionists.  
1.05 Cliffs Michelmore's Family Favourites.  
2.00 David Hamilton.  
3.00 Music All the Way.  
4.00 John Dunn.  
5.00 Vic Damone, rpt.  
6.00 Here's Bob Monkhouse.  
7.00 Something Seasonal.  
12.05 Bill Tennant's production with Alec McCowen, Ann-Margret, and John Gielgud.  
8.30 Home from Home: part 2 of the documentary on WW2 evacuees.  
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## ONE

6.00 Mark Page.  
7.00 Mike Read.  
8.00 Simon Bates.  
9.00 Larry Davies.  
10.00 Adrian Johns.  
11.00 Bruno Brookes.  
12.00 Janice Long.  
10.00-12.00 Adrian Johns.

## WAVELENGTHS

Radio 1: 1089 kHz. 275 m. 103.3, 285. Radio 2: 909, 330. 682, 530. Radio 3: 1512, 247. 190-502-51. 88-102 MHz. Radio 4: 200, 1590. Greater

## RADIO

## FOUR

5.55 on 1 w Shipping.  
6.00 Christmas Prelude.  
6.30 Nativity Reading.  
6.55 Weather: Travel.  
7.00 News.  
7.05 Christmas Bells.  
7.15 A People's Carol.  
7.30 Nativity Reading.  
7.35 Weather: Travel.  
8.00 News.  
8.05 The Best of the Day's Your Own.  
8.55 Weather: Travel.  
9.00 News.  
9.05 Treasures and Trifles.  
9.30 The Queen.  
9.35 Service.  
10.30 Alistair Cooke's Letter from America: 1953.  
10.45 Natural Selection Box.  
11.00 News: Travel.  
11.05 "Pride and Prejudice" (11.10 p.m. Preview).  
11.15 Quotations: Unquote.  
12.00 Weather: Shipping.  
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## THREE

6.55 Weather.  
7.00 News.  
7.05 Christmas Day Concert.  
7.05 News.  
8.00 The Octave of the Nativity: 2.  
8.05 Arensky.  
9.00 News.  
9.05 Decca Island Discs.  
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10.00-12.00 Adrian Johns.

## WAVELENGTHS

Radio 1: 1089 kHz. 275 m. 103.3, 285. Radio 2: 909, 330. 682, 530. Radio 3: 1512, 247. 190-502-51. 88-102 MHz. Radio 4: 200, 1590. Greater

## TELEVISION — CHRISTMAS DAY

## BBC-1

8.10 a.m. Play School — The Nativity Story. 9 Buena's Christmas Story. 9.15 Paddington. 9.30 Lassie. 9.45 Charlie Brown. 10.10 Underella. 10.25 Magic Roundabout. 10.30 Play School. 10.50 Henry's Cat. 10.55 The Chuddehounds Christmas. 11.5 The Sounds of 84: The Montreux Pop Festival. 12.5 Till You Father Gets Home. 12.50 News. Weather. 12.55 Junior Kick Start. 1.00 Quiz. 1.05 Fun. 1.10 The Christmas Raccoons. 2.15 "The Cruel Sea" (1952, b/w). Splendid wartime drama from Nicholas Monsarrat's best-seller. Jack Hawkins, Donald Sinden, Denholm Elliott, Virginia McKenna. 4.15 Pop Quiz Christmas Special. 4.25 Jeremy Irons reads "Snowflake" by Paul Gallico. 5.00 Blue Peter. (Ceefax subtitles.) 5.25 The Box of Delights: final episode. (Ceefax subtitles.)

6.00 NEWS, WEATHER.  
6.15 JIMMY FIX IT FOR CHRISTMAS — With Jimmy Savile.

## BBC-2

1.55 p.m. "A Dog's Life" (1918, b/w). Chaplin silent two-reeler in which his co-star is Scraps, a mongrel-dog. 4.35 Polar Bear Alert. 4.45 "Limehouse Nights" (1952, b/w). Chaplin as a fading musical clown who regains his respect and confidence through his love for a young ballerina. Sentimental and over-the-top, but still has many moving moments. With Claire Bloom. 5.00 "The Nutcracker" — Tchaikovsky's fairy tale ballet performed by the Scottish Ballet with Elaine McDonald as the Sugar Plum Fairy. Davide Bombana as the Prince and Noriko Ohara as the Snow Queen. Filmed at Glasgow's Theatre Royal.

## ITV Thames

6.25 a.m. Good Morning Britain's Christmas Party. 9.25 Father Murphy. 10.15 Cartoon Time. 10.20 "Benji" (1974 film). 12 Freetime Christmas Special. 1.20 The Birth of Christ. 1.45 Scarecrow and Mrs. King. 2.40 Take Over. 3.10 "The Return of the Pink Panther" (1974 film). 3.15 Wind in the Willows. 5.45 NEWS. 6.00 THAMES NEWS — 6.25 Help! With Viv Taylor Gee. 6.35 CROSSROADS.

## Channel 4

11.10 a.m. Il Poverello — The Story of St. Francis of Assisi. 11.15 "The Constant Bull" (1970). Set in wartime East Africa. 1.30 The World of Children. 1.50 "Jour de Fête" (1954, b/w). Classic French comedy featuring Jacques Tati as a village postman. 2.30 The Young Englishman: Adaptation of the Victorian classic, written by nine-year-old Dan Ashford in 1880, and giving a child's vision of group-up romance and the social niceties of the times. 5.00 The Queen Speaks to the Commonwealth. 5.10 Gielgud. Performed by the Kirov Ballet with Galina Mezentseva in the title role.  
7.10 LOROT — British debut of Germany's leading comedian and cartoonist. Preceded by News.

## THE PAUL DANIELS MAGIC CHRISTMAS SHOW.

7.25 JUST GOOD FRIENDS SPECIAL — Feature length film which looks back to what happened to Henry and Vivia before the events depicted in the popular television series. With Paul Nicholas and Jan Francis (Ceefax subtitles).  
8.55 THE TWO RONNIES — With guest Elaine Paige.  
9.55 NEWS, WEATHER.  
10.05 WOGAN — His guests are Freddie Starr, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Elton John and Victoria Principal.  
10.55 "SOME LIKE IT HOT" (1959, b/w). Riotous Billy-Wilder-directed comedy with Tony Curtis and Jack Lemmon as a couple of musicians in late twenties Chicago forced into drag to join an all-girl band to escape gangsters. Marilyn Monroe as the band's ukelele-playing singer gives one of her funniest performances in a truly classic comedy. (Ceefax subtitles.) 12.50 Weather.

## THE MASTER OF MOUTON — Russell Harve visits Baron Philippe de Rothschild at Chateau Mouton.

8.40 THE QUEEN — Speaking to the Commonwealth. With subtitles and sign language for the deaf and hard-of-hearing.  
8.55-12.40 "KAOS" (1994). Italian film with English subtitles which brings four of Pirandello's folk tales of Sicilian life to the screen. The stories featured are "The Other Son", "Moon Sickness", "The Jar" and "Requiem" followed by an epilogue, "Conversing with Mother", based on an imagined episode from the writer's own life.

## "RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK" (1981). Steven Spielberg's very popular adventure extravaganza, a fast-paced, brilliant-minute epic full of mind-boggling special effects and enough cliff-hangers to keep you permanently on the edge of your seat. With Harrison Ford. (Oracle subtitles.)

10.40 NEWS.  
10.45 DES O'CONNOR TONIGHT — Special Christmas edition.  
11.35 "HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS" (1972). Walter Brennan as an ageing father welcoming home for Christmas his four daughters, who eventually have to cope with a homicidal maniac.  
12.50 PEACE — Presented by Gill Nevill.

## BROOKSIDE.

8.30 SEE HOW THEY RUN — The West End's Theatre of Comedy production of Philip King's farce, adapted for television by Ray Cooney.  
10.00 JEAN SIBELIUS — The Early Years/Maturity and Silence. An exploration of the composer's creative spirit through film and his own music and words. Impressive, beautifully filmed production with most of the music performed by the Swedish Symphony Orchestra.  
11.55-12.15 IAN BREAKWELL'S CHRISTMAS DIARY.

\*\* Outstanding. \* Recommended.

## ITV REGIONS

## TVS

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## Anglia

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## Central

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## WELSH CHANNEL 4

12.45 Yr Effeiliad. 12.55 The Citizen 2000. 1.25 "Home at Seven" — 1952 b/w suburban mystery about a clerk who loses his memory for 24 hours. Ralph Richardson, Margaret Leighton. 2.55 "The Holly and the Ivy" (1952, b/w film about family revela-

## TVS

11.15 Bugs Bunny Movie. 1.15 Top Pop Videos 1981. 2.00 Torville & Dean Special. 3.00 The Queen. 3.10 "The Man with the Golden Gun" (1974 film). 3.15 Wind in the Willows. 5.45 NEWS. 6.00 THAMES NEWS — 6.25 Help! With Viv Taylor Gee. 6.35 CROSSROADS.

## Yorkshire

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## TSW



